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Champion
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Organisers hail 'marvellous' MotorFest - despite weather!

COUNCIL chiefs have described this year's Ormskirk MotorFest as "still a marvellous spectacle for West Lancashire" despite the wet weather resulting in a fall in numbers attending.

Despite the downpour, people of all ages came to town to enjoy one of the North West's biggest free family days out.

Highly skilled drivers showed off their expertise in the AutoSOLO Challenge organised by Bolton-Le-Moors Car Club in association with Aintree Circuit Club.

And more than 200 vehicles covering over a century of motoring and automotive heritage and history were on display in the town centre and Coronation Park.

Star cars of the show included the Ginetta GT4 G55 driven by 19-year-old Ben Wallace, of Southport, in the British GT4 Championship and an Aston Martin 5.2 Litre V12 DB11 Coupe, provided by Aston Martin Wilmslow. There were also Bentleys, Ferraris, Porsches, Jaguars and a whole host of other classic, competition and sports cars and motorcycles on display.

Meanwhile more than 110 vehicles took part in parade laps with expert commentary keeping the crowds informed.

The Mayor's Choice was awarded to Chris Walker, from Southport, with his crowd-pulling 1962 Aston Martin DB4.

The Concours d'Elegance competition saw some of the best presented cars competing for prizes in individual classes, and overall winner was George Cross with his 1977 Ford Escort Ghia 1600.

Winner of the AutoSOLO was Will Shepherd driving a Mazda Eunos (MX5), his overall time of 96.6 clinching victory by just 0.8sec. He represented Accrington Motorsport Club

Councillor John Hodson, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for planning, said: "It was a real shame that the weather was so wet for the MotorFest but it was still a marvellous spectacle for West Lancashire. This annual event provides fantastic value for money for council taxpayers as the authority works well with the organisers Aintree Circuit Club to set up this marvellous occasion which thousands of people enjoy.

"While weather kept footfall down from previous years, it was still three times what we would expect on a normal Sunday in the town.

Continued inside

HOSPITAL CHILLAXATION ROOM EARNS PLAUDITS

A SCHEME to provide places of safety to support young people with mental health issues piloted at Ormskirk Hospital has been praised by health chiefs.

The hospital is the first to provide a calm place for young people in Lancashire and South Cumbria away from the noise, hustle and bustle of a busy department.

The room was given the name the Chillaxation Room by Jake Jones, from Skelmersdale, who is a member of the West Lancashire Children and Adolescent Mental Health patient group.

Hospital staff worked in collaboration with young people to co-design the space by understanding what would be calming for them in crisis.

The young people chose sensory floors, bubble lighting and a seascape, these elements are particularly important when the young person has complex needs such as autism spectrum disorder or learning difficulties. Research has shown the sensory element is particularly of benefit to this group of young people and has been shown to reduce stress, anxiety, psychosis and self-harm.

Rachel Snow-Miller, director of commissioning for All Age Mental Health and Learning Disability Services for Lancashire and South Cumbria, said: "The places of calm will make a significant difference to children and young people in mental health crisis across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Report by **Henry James**

"It's fantastic to see Ormskirk and District General Hospital lead the way with their Chillaxation Room. Feedback from staff and service users has been incredibly positive and we look forward to more of these spaces opening across the region."

Hospitals across Lancashire and South Cumbria are using Government funding to provide safe and appropriate spaces for children detained under the Mental Health Act.

In May 2015, the Government announced that the Department of Health would be making up to £15m in capital funding available to improve the provision, capacity and quality of health-based places of safety to better support people detained under section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983.

New legislation prevents the detainment of young people aged under 18 in a police custody cell so the Lancashire Crisis Concordat Group bid for monies to provide one or more section 136 suites for children and young. The place of calm should ideally be a health-based place of safety, where young people can be examined rapidly by a registered medical practitioner and interviewed by an approved mental health professional so that any necessary arrangements for care and treatment can be made.

Families and the paediatric team in the Chillaxation Room.

Each place of calm will offer a place to sit or lie down with soft furnishings and brightly coloured cushions. The rooms will be safe for young people with suicidal ideation or violent behaviour.

Other hospitals across the region have started the process to implement places of calm and will open in the near future.

INSIDE THIS WEEK...

'Poster girl' Faith

David's tour triumph

CROSSWORD
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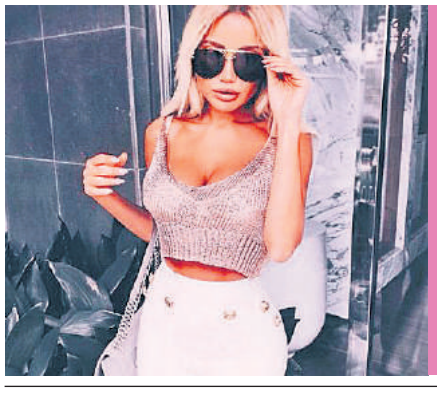

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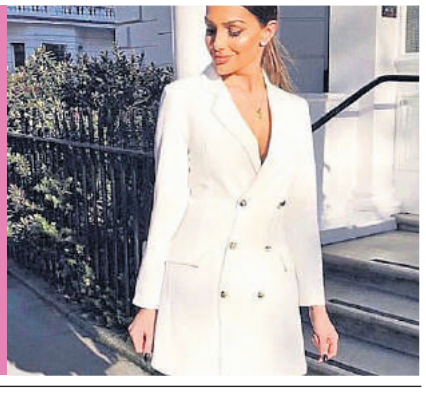

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Paralympic gold medallist Jonnie visits Burscough FC to trace his sporting roots

Jonnie Peacock at Burscough FC's Victoria Park where he learned about his grandfather John Roberts who played for the club.

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Report by **Kenny Parker**

GOLD medal-winning paralympian Jonnie Peacock paid an emotional trip to West Lancashire to trace his family's sporting roots as part of the BBC's popular Who Do You Think You Are? programme.

The track ace, who won gold for Great Britain in the T44 100 metres at the 2012 London Paralympics at 19 years of age, visited Burscough FC's Victoria Park ground to find out more about his grandfather, John (Jonnie) Roberts, a record goal scorer who played for the club in 1961.

Jonnie, whose right leg was amputated below the knee after contracting meningitis as a child, was told by his mother that his grandad had first attracted the attentions of Leeds United scouts as a prolific goalscorer for St Elizabeth's in the Bootle League - hitting the back of net an incredible 137 times in one season.

That record-breaking effort in 1957 prompted the Yorkshire club to offer John a trial but his dad, Edward refused him the chance, insisting that his son pursue a trade in painting and decorating instead.

John, who went on to play for Burscough, sadly died in 1992, aged just 56, a year before Jonnie was born.

The paralympian initially questioned Edward's wisdom in not allowing his son to fulfil his sporting potential before taking up a trade. However, after delving into more into his family's past and learning more about the hard life Edward and his father Isaac before him had, living hand-to-mouth as casual dock workers in Bootle, he came to understand his great grandfather's motives better.

Five of Edward"s siblings died in infancy, while Isaac died at the age of just 50 after contracting anthrax from working on the docks.

Privilege

Historian Professor Sally Sheard from Liverpool University said Bootle in those days before the NHS was known as 'Brutal Bootle'.

Jonnie said: "Edward lost over half of his brothers and sisters, and his father which is why he wanted my granddad John to have a trade and be a painter and decorator.

" It was a good trade and a step up from where he'd come from. So I think he wanted the best for his family."

Burscough FC chairman, Mike Swift, said: "It was a pleasure and footballing privilege to host Jonnie and the BBC film crew to Victoria Park.

Jonnie Peacock with Burscough FC Chairman Mike Swift during filming for *Who Do You Think You Are?*

"Burscough's heritage has many a good story and as television viewers saw, one well worth sharing with millions.

"After filming Jonnie posed for selfies with Burscough first teamers, colleagues and young players kindly supplied by permission of our neighbouring high school.

"And before leaving he also got a ball out, went on the pitch and scored a few at the town end!"

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Faith is 'poster girl' for water company campaign

THE creative talents of an eight-year old girl have been recognised by United Utilities after a poster she designed for them won a competition to be displayed around her home village.

Faith Downey from Burscough, created the poster at the Grove Community Association's Positive Activity Programme as part of a challenge for children aged between eight and 13 to inform the local community about how they can minimise the risk of sewer flooding and prevent blockages.

Nine-year old Ella Thompson took second place and a joint effort between Daisy Hart and Alexander Daw, both aged nine, came third.

Competition judge, Adam Barnett, a network performance technician at United Utilities, spoke to the children about the dos and dont's when it comes to flushing things down the loo and pouring things down the sink.

He said: "The children created some exceptional posters to such a high standard and choosing a winner was particularly difficult. It was great to see the children have fun with such an important matter within their community and learn about how to keep sewers flowing."

Faith (in hard hat) displays her winning poster flanked by runners-up Alexander Daw, Daisy Hart and Ella Thompson; judge Adam Barnett and Grove Youth Group leader Lisa Sutton.

Lou Brown, the Grove activity programme co-ordinator, added: "The posters were all fantastic and I believe with the help of Faith's winning poster displayed around Burscough village, the local community will recognise the importance of keeping our streets, homes and gardens flood free."

The competition was part of the Burscough Better Together campaign, which will see United Utilities hosting and attending events and activities across the community.

Faith's winning poster will be displayed in bus stops, notice boards, restaurants and shops.

Rain hits MotorFest crowd

From Page 1

Mike Ashcroft, Aintree Circuit Club chairman, said: "I am delighted we were able to bring such a marvellous event to the streets of Ormskirk once again even though the weather let us down. There were plenty of attractions for visitors to see and the Makers Market was a great added attraction for people to enjoy.

"We are very grateful to West Lancs Council and the police for their support and to all our sponsors and volunteer marshals. We would also like to thank the medical staff and volunteers who gave us great support on the day.

"We are also very grateful to all the drivers and riders who came from far and wide to display their cars and motorcycles."

● *MotorFest photos - Pages 30 & 31.*

Renewed warning about fly-tipping

Report by **Henry James**

AS part of a renewed crackdown on fly-tipping borough council chiefs are warning residents to make sure that people they engage to dispose of rubbish are licensed to do so or face the consequences of heavy fines.

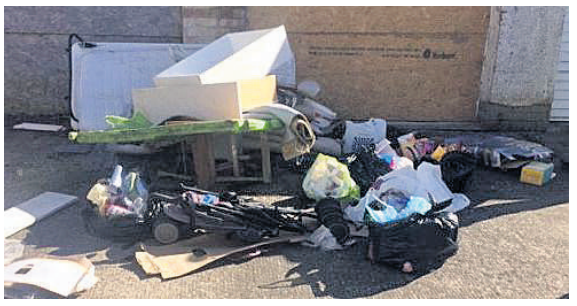
The latest warning has come after a woman who advertised a business on Facebook to dispose of people's rubbish pleaded guilty at Wigan Magistrates Court to four offences of causing fly-tipping.

Emily Jo Banks, of Egerton, Skelmersdale, was fined £300 and ordered to pay £908.15 costs and a £30 victim surcharge making a total of £1,238.15.

The court heard that significant fly-tips were found deposited on Egerton, Ennerdale, Elmridge and Elmstead in Tanhouse, Skelmersdale. This waste was found to have come from two properties in the Warrington and Wigan areas.

West Lancs Council made extensive enquiries with the occupiers of these properties and through social media and the waste was traced back to Banks.

She was advertising a business on Facebook where she offered to take people's waste away from their homes and had charged the residents for this.



Items which were dumped in Skelmersdale.

At court she pleaded guilty allowing this waste to escape her control and to failing to provide waste transfer notes as well.

Banks was not a licensed waste carrier.

Meanwhile the council is reminding all householders and businesses in the borough that it is their responsibility to make sure any waste that they have removed is disposed of legally.

Anyone removing waste as part of a business must have a waste carriers' licence and give waste transfer notes to whomever they collect waste from.

Householders can check if anyone who removes waste from them has a waste carriers' licence by contacting the Environment Agency on 03708 506506 or online at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency.

In another case heard at Wigan Magistrates court on the same day Kyrell Caldwell, of Tawd Road, Skelmersdale, pleaded guilty to the fly-tipping related offence of failing to comply with a legal notice from the council.

The notice requested information regarding a fly-tip found in Tawd Road. He was fined £200 and ordered to pay £397.18 costs and a victim surcharge of £30 - a total of £627.18.

Councillor Kevin Wright, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for health and community safety, said: "Fly-tipping is a criminal offence and the strong action taken by the council and the courts in these two cases illustrates how serious it is. Those found guilty can face serious penalties.

"The council will continue to crackdown on fly-tipping and litter to protect the local environment."

Anyone who believes waste has been disposed of illegally can report this to the council on their website at www.westlancs.gov.uk/flytipping. Problems with litter or fly-tipping can also be reported by calling 01695 577177 between 8.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday.

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Shadow minister to visit proposed fracking site at Altcar

CAMPAIGN group The Moss Alliance and West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper have arranged for Shadow Secretary of State for International Trade and Shadow Minister for International Climate Change, Barry Gardiner, to visit proposed fracking sites at Altcar in West Lancashire and Preston New Road in Little Plumpton.

Ms Cooper and the group were keen to show Mr Gardiner first-hand the huge impact the site at Preston New Road has had and how West Lancashire could be similarly affected should Aurora be successful in securing permission at Altcar.

The shadow minister will meet with Ms Cooper and campaigners on site at Altcar at midday on Friday (August 31) to discuss the situation, before arriving at Preston New Road at 2pm to speak with protestors there.

Rosie Cooper has said: "I oppose all plans to frack in this country and like many residents, am worried by Aurora's plans to frack here in Altcar, West Lancashire.

"I have contacted Lancashire County Council, the Environment Agency and Public Health England to raise my concerns over the impact fracking would have on my constituents in West Lancashire and I continue to work closely with local anti-fracking groups.

Barry Gardiner MP

"As part of the campaign, I have invited the Shadow Secretary of State for International Trade and Shadow Minister for International Climate Change, Barry Gardiner, to join me on site in Altcar to consider the many, many concerns and hear directly from residents of West Lancashire.

"This is the tip of the iceberg - if Altcar goes to plan, Ormskirk, Burscough or Skelmersdale could be next.

"I am extremely grateful to Barry for giving his time to come and see the impacts of fracking on our communities here in Lancashire and for continuing to ensure that anti-fracking policy is a key part of our front bench position."

Mr Gardiner said: "I am pleased to come and visit both sites at Altcar and Preston New Road to demonstrate mine and Labour's backing for communities and action groups who oppose fracking in this country and I thank Rosie Cooper and The Moss Alliance for inviting me.

"The Government's decision to overrule Lancashire County Council's rejection of fracking bulldozes local democracy and risks locking Britain into an old-fashioned dirty energy infrastructure when we should be seizing the opportunities for new long-term jobs and investment in a clean energy future.

"Cuadrilla's own figures on jobs show they would be very temporary, and their claims that fracking will lower British energy bills have been discredited.

Moss Alliance spokespersons John Wilkinson and Maureen Mills commented: "We are grateful for Rosie's continued support for our campaign and to Barry Gardiner for coming to visit as it is vital we keep this at the forefront of the public's attention and ensure we continue to fight against this government who are ideologically driven to allow fracking at all costs."

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Emotional first seniors tour triumph for golf ace David

Report by **Henry James**

Local club pro dedicates 'unbelievable' victory in Russia to late friend

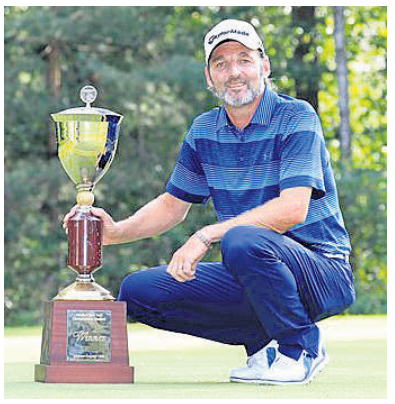
WEST Lancashire golfer David Shacklady secured an emotional victory at the Moscow Country Club on Sunday, August 19 and dedicated his win to John O'Connor, a friend and former colleague at Ormskirk Golf Club who died recently.

Shacklady scored a final round 69, which gave him a two-shot triumph at the VTB Russian Seniors Open Golf Championship.

The 51-year-old, who is attached to Mossock Hall golf club in Bickerstaffe and lives in Lathom, finished on eight under par, with Welsh duo Stephen Dodd and Phillip Price in second place.

He had started the day two shots behind overnight leader Price, but took the outright lead after the front nine on the Sunday thanks to three birdies going out before navigating the back nine in level par.

Playing in his first year on the Staysure Tour, David, who had been an assistant at Ormskirk Golf Club for many years, was clearly emotional after securing his maiden title. "It's unbelievable, absolutely unbelievable," he said. "It's a bit of a blur at the moment. My aim was just to keep my card and now I've done that comfortably.



David Shacklady with the VTB Russian Open Golf Championship (Senior) trophy.

"It's just unbelievable. I've been playing well. I played great in the last event at the London Golf Club. I spent some time with my coach Simon Edwards and it felt great there and I've brought it here.

"I just stayed patient and I hit it great, to be fair. I managed to hold them all off with a load of pars, which was lovely."

Shacklady had three top 20 finishes to his name prior to the event but he admits to putting himself under too much pressure in previous weeks.

"I've been frustrated that I've not really got to where I feel I can play, my level," he said. "I've perhaps done a bit too much leaderboard watching, put a bit too much pressure on myself and I feel like I've been playing catch-up at every event.

"To get up there and stay up there and finish it off against class players like this, it's unbelievable."

Shacklady, who played in the Open in 1998 at Royal Birkdale and 2007 at Carnoustie, said he's having 'the time of his life' on the Staysure Tour.

"I've watched these guys on TV all my life so playing with them is a dream to start with. To contend with them and now to win is unbelievable.

"They are proven players and have been for many years. Phillip has played in The Ryder Cup and Stephen has won many titles. There's a lot of winners in the field and you know they're not going to give you a title. I was nervous but I managed to keep my head and thankfully pars were good enough."

Diversions in place as 'essential' gas pipe work gets underway

WORK on an underground gas pipe in Ormskirk, which has been described as "essential to maintain a safe and reliable energy supply" to local homes, is due to start on Thursday, August 30.

Local gas network Cadent needs to relocate a pipe under Burscough Road, close to the junction with County Road.

As Cadent's engineers will be working in the southbound lane of Burscough Road (heading into Ormskirk), this lane will be closed for the duration of the two-week project.

Motorists will not be able to turn from County Road into Burscough Road. A diversion route will be clearly signposted. The northbound lane is not affected.

Cadent has posted letters to all residents and businesses in the immediate local area, advising them of the work and explaining that access to properties will be maintained.

Gas supplies should not be interrupted during the work.

A spokesman for Cadent said: "This is essential work to make sure we can continue to maintain a safe and reliable gas supply to homes in this area of Ormskirk.

"We have worked closely with Lancashire County Council to minimise disruption, with a lane closure and diversion in place for everyone's safety.

"We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause."

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GCSE maths is as easy as 1,2,3 for 11-year-old Darren!

Youngster who was born deaf passes exam with flying colours - four years early!

Report by **Tom Martin**

AN Ormskirk youngster who was born deaf and developed a love of maths gained a Level 8 in his GCSE - despite taking it four years early!

Darren Toh, who is only 11 years old and has just finished Year 7, was so advanced that teachers at Merchant Taylors' School in Crosby felt confident he could do well in the maths GCSE, despite most of the other pupils sitting the exam being in Year 11.

And that confidence paid off because Darren was delighted to find out last week that he managed to get a Level 8 (which is equivalent to an A*).

The achievement is all the more remarkable considering Darren was born with bilateral genetic congenital deafness and didn't first speak until he was five years old.

His proud mum, Dr May Ng, said: "Darren's achievements are really remarkable for someone born with deafness.

"He didn't speak until he was five years old, learning to first use sign-language, and was in a special school with a statement of educational needs until he was seven years.

"We gave up his education statement to place him in Merchant Taylors' at Year 3 because he was showing so much progress. And we haven't looked back since as the school has nurtured him through the years with fantastic teachers along the way.

"In April this year, his maths teacher, Mrs Marshall, asked if he wanted to have a go at the GCSE maths exam with no pressure or expectations, and he did so well at just 11 years old.

"He also loves drama, plays the saxophone and the piano and recently received a Distinction for Grade 5 piano and a Distinction for Grade 2 LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art)."

Darren with his results

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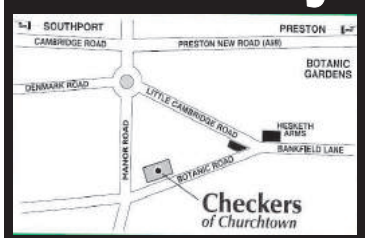

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Pupils celebrate GCSE results

Borough schools report improved performances

Report by **Henry James**

Students at Ormskirk School with their GCSE results

PUPILS at West Lancashire schools have been celebrating their GCSE results.

At Ormskirk School, 75% of students achieved 'standard' passes in English and maths, with 50% achieving 'strong' passes at Grade 5 or above.

Head teacher, Martin Kerridge, said: "With 10% of our entries for the new GCSE exams achieving a Grade 8 or 9, and 60% awarded at least a Grade 5, this year's results are testament to the resilience and determination of our talented students and staff and the support of our parent body."

For the basics measure at St Bede's, which includes English and maths, 80% of students achieved Grade 4 and above in both core subjects and 68% for Grade 5 and above in the same measure.

Results for English and maths at St Bede's are among the top performing departments in the North West.

Furthermore, the Attainment 8 figure, which looks at attainment across a range of subjects "improved significantly" to 56.58% which is "significantly above" previous national averages.

New head teacher, Phil Denton, said: "We are delighted with the fantastic achievements of the class of 2018. I would like to congratulate them for a truly fantastic achievement."

Teachers at Lathom High School said many subjects saw students achieve strong performances, particularly English Language and literature, history, French, Spanish, art and ICT and in each of the separate sciences 85% of students achieved Grade 4 or above with 31% of students achieving the top grades in these subjects.

Head teacher, Mrs Galbraith,said: "Our continued success is testament to the dedication and hard work of staff at Lathom, supported by families at home, and ensures that we can be extremely proud in celebrating the talents of all our students."

Teachers at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College in Skelmersdale said: "Standards in English and maths have yet again increased and there are notable successes across a wide range of subjects.

"There has been a significant increase in the number of Grade 9s awarded across a range of subjects throughout the school, an outstanding achievement!"

Head teacher, Alison Knight, commended the students and staff on their hard work and efforts and wished the class of 2018 the very best of success in their post-16 choices.

Up Holland High School are celebrating an increase in their results with improvements in both attainment and progress.

A spokesperson for the school commented there was a "particularly pleasing increase" in results with over 20% of pupils achieving the highest grades 9-7.

Included in this was Mathew Lenahan who achieved 10 Gade 9s, one A* and an A* with distinction in further maths.

Head teacher Mr P. Scarborough said: "The school's 'Dedication to Excellence' is clearly demonstrated in the number of pupils achieving the very best grades and most importantly securing college places of their choice."

Students at Tarleton Academy achieved 81% of all GCSEs at the new standard pass (Grade 4) or above. Mrs Gwinnett, executive head teacher at the academy, said: "We are extremely pleased and very proud of these results. The strength of the working relationships between our students, staff and parents is a key factor for us."

At Merchant Taylors' Schools more than one in three GCSE results awarded were A* or the new Grade 8/9. Overall, 78% of grades achieved A*-B/9-6 grades. Matthew Marsh from Ormskirk, achieved six Grade 9s, 3 A* and an A.

At Scarisbrick Hall School the overall pass rate was more than 95%. The school's head teacher said: "Well done to all of our pupils gaining their results today. I am delighted to see such high achievement across all of the subjects taken."

MP calls for Government action on social housing

ROSIE Cooper has joined a cross-party group of MPs calling for Government action on social housing from Housing Secretary James Brokenshire.

The group is demanding answers on the Social Housing Green Paper which has been delayed and not published, as promised, before recess by Government.

Currently, 1.16 million households remain on social housing waiting lists, with more than 123,000 homeless children living in temporary accommodation. England's chronic lack of social housing has now reached the lowest point since records began, Ms Cooper said.

The West Lancs MP added that Government statistics show that where nearly 40,000 social homes for rent were built in 2010-11, this has fallen to just 5,380 in 2016-17.

She said: "It is our belief that an ambitious social housing programme is fundamental to solving the current housing crisis and that this Government must take a leading role in directly commissioning social homes where the market fails to deliver.

"Social housing provides affordable accommodation for those on lower incomes and it is a vital safety net for vulnerable groups, as well as being the most cost-effective and efficient way to build the large number of homes this country needs.

"It is evident that social housing has become far from affordable in recent years, as existing rents have risen and many new homes are let at higher, market-linked 'affordable rents'. More than half of families currently living in temporary accommodation in England are in employment, demonstrating that 'affordable rents' are not, in fact, affordable for many working people."

The Green Paper further calls for the prioritisation of homes let at rents which reflect the earnings of those likely to occupy them, rather than those linked to the dysfunctional private rented market.

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Defibrillator to be installed at Mere Sands Wood

Popular nature reserve chosen as site of lifesaving equipment as a result of county-wide campaign

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Paramedic Cheryl Pickstock receives a defibrillator from former county councillor Tony Jones watched by County Councillor John Fillis (left), Mike Stevens and Matt Dean at the launch of the Lancashire Lifesavers campaign.

A DEFIBRILLATOR is to be installed at a popular West Lancashire beauty spot as a result of the Lancashire Lifesavers campaign, which will see a total of 22 of the machines put in place across the county.

The campaign was inspired by former Lancashire County Councillor Tony Jones, whose life was saved when he collapsed during a debate at County Hall, Preston last September.

Thankfully, Skelmersdale East County Councillor John Fillis - a trained nurse - BBC Radio Lancashire political reporter Mike Stevens and county council facilities manager Matt Dean were on hand to administer vital assistance with the use of a defibrillator.

'Brilliant campaign'

And in March it was announced that Lancashire County Council was to invest £30,000 in new defibrillators as part of the lifesavers campaign, which is also supported by the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) and BBC Radio Lancashire.

People were asked to suggest suitable locations for the devices to be installed, with dozens of nominations being received.

Now, after careful consideration, the final list of selected locations has been announced including pubs, schools, shops, sports clubs and places of worship.

Among the venues chosen to site a defibrillator and cabinet is the Mere Sands Wood Nature Reserve in Rufford.

County council leader, Councillor Geoff Driver, said: "I am delighted that this lifesaving equipment is to be installed across Lancashire, and that it is the county council that is helping to make this happen.

"Lancashire Lifesavers has been an absolutely brilliant campaign. More than 2,500 people have been trained in how to give CPR - including myself - through the campaign and now it is great to know that lifesaving equipment will soon be available to help save lives all across the county.

"Around 30,000 cardiac arrests happen out of hospital in the UK every year. If people receive CPR quickly from someone and can also use a defibrillator, they have a much better chance of surviving and recovering."

Chris Hyde, community resuscitation manager at NWAS, added: "We really hope that these defibrillators will make a real difference should someone suffer from a cardiac arrest.

"The chance of survival is reduced by 10% for every minute without CPR and defibrillation, so the more people who have CPR training and access to defibrillators the better.

"The most important thing is to act quickly as just a few minutes can make all the difference."

Cabinets have also been provided at some venues which already have a defibrillator that it is currently only available when the venue is open.

As the cabinet can be fitted on an exterior wall this will allow public access at any time.

Camera club welcomes new members

OFFICIALS at Ormskirk Camera Club are focusing on a new season starting in September and are inviting new members to join.

Weekly meetings are held at the Guide Hut on Moorgate on three Thursdays and one Wednesday each month starting at 8pm and running until about 10pm.

Anyone interested in photography is welcome to go along, either as a guest or new member and can be sure of a friendly welcome.

Club membership ranges from real experts to people who may have just bought or are thinking of buying their first camera.

The club's full programme includes guest speakers, practical nights, competitions and opportunities for members to share their work with an appreciative and supportive audience.

First meeting of the new season is on Thursday, September 6 when club member Chris Mowatt will give a talk entitled 'Towards Better Images.'

For more details visit the club website at www.ormskirkcameraclub.weebly.com.

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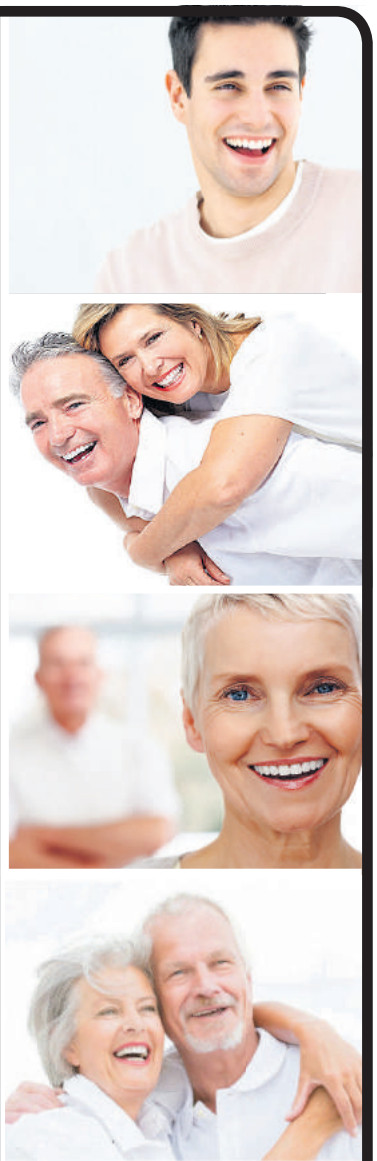

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Blooming surprise...

Winner of village best kept garden award didn't even know there was a competition!

Report by **Kenny Parker**

THE winner of a village's annual garden award this year wasn't even aware there was a competition!

Cynthia Collister only found out she had won Hesketh Bank Parish Council's Best Kept Front Garden contest thanks to a text from a neighbour.

And Ms Collister, who moved into May Cottage in Meadow Lane last year from Scotland, discovered that the property had won the same award two years ago.

She said: "I was amazed when I got a text from my neighbour telling me I had won as I hadn't even heard of the competition before.

"Then I found out that the previous owners, Mr and Mrs Irving, had also won in 2016. I am not surprised because it was immaculate.

"I moved from Scotland to Hesketh Bank to be near my grandchildren last year and instantly liked May Cottage when I saw it."

Her prize was two free tickets to Southport Flower Show.

Judges for the competition were Liz Tyson of Landsdowne Camping, Sue Watson, leader of the local U3A Gardening Group, and Ray Roukin, chief executive of Southport Flower Show,

Cynthia Collister in her award-winning garden.

Ray said: "There are some lovely hidden gems in unexpected places in the village and Meadow Lane is one of them, with May Cottage standing out in particular."

Meanwhile the Best Kept Allotment award was won for a second time by Fred and Susan Smith, owners of Plot 37 on Hesketh Bank Allotments.

The couple were joint winners in 2015 but were surprised to win again this year. Fred said: "The whole area has come on since then and it has been much harder work this year due to the weather."

A new category for Best Kept Street was won by Silverdale

Councillor Diane Earles, who led the working party for the project, said: "We would like to thank our judges for their hard work and deliberations. We have a lot of people that take pride in their part of Hesketh Bank and recognising this is what our competition is all about.

"Congratulations to the winners and to everyone in the village for continuing to make it a pleasant place to live."

All those shortlisted for front garden and allotment categories will receive free entrance to the Hesketh Bank Show on September 15.

The judges also commented on how litter-free the village was this year and congratulated the community effort.

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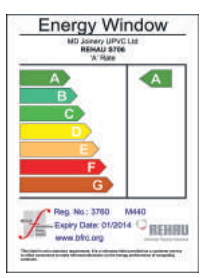

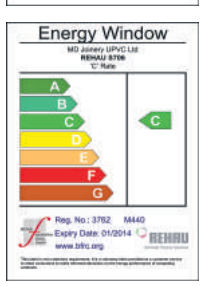

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Public invited to have their say at council meetings

Report by **Henry James**

MEMBERS of the public are being reminded that they can give their views on items on the agenda at West Lancs Borough Council meetings.

Residents have the chance to speak on certain agenda items at council meetings where important decisions are made that affect people across the borough.

In addition to those arrangements in place for speaking at planning and licensing committees, there is also an opportunity to speak on items being considered at meetings of the authority's cabinet, audit & governance committee, standards committee and overview and scrutiny committees.

The right to speak applies to all meetings of those committees but residents may also wish to note the dates of upcoming meetings as follows:

- **Cabinet: Tuesday, September 11, 7pm.**
- **Standards committee: Tuesday, September 18, 5pm.**
- **Executive overview and scrutiny committee: Thursday, September 27, 7pm.**

Councillor Ian Moran: "The views of people living in West Lancashire on services provided by the council are really important to us."

- **Corporate and environmental overview and scrutiny committee: Thursday, October 11, 7pm.**
- **Audit and governance committee: Tuesday, October 30, at 6.30pm.**

Agendas for these meetings will usually be published on the council's website in the week preceding the meeting. For example, the agenda for the September cabinet will be published on Monday, September 3.

To request to speak, members of the public must contact Member Services with their request by 10am on the Friday of the week preceding the relevant meeting. For example, a request to speak at September cabinet must reach the council by 10am on Friday, September 7.

Requests can be submitted by email to member.services@westlancs.gov.uk or by post to: Member Services, West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, West Lancashire, L39 2DF; or by calling 01695 585065.

Full details of the arrangements are provided in the council's Public Speaking Protocol which can be found at www.westlancs.gov.uk/speak.

Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "The views of people living in West Lancashire on services provided by the council are really important to us. Please take a look at the agendas for these meetings when they are online and let us know if you want to come and speak on any of the items listed."

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Rail passengers to suffer three more strike-hit Saturdays

Report by **Henry James**

RAIL, Maritime and Transport Workers union officials have called three more one-day strikes in the long-running dispute over plans to bring in driver-only trains - meaning more disruption for passengers on Northern Rail services for the next FIVE Saturdays!

The RMT has said its members at Northern will now be on strike on Saturdays September 15, 22 and 29 - in addition to the previously announced stoppages on September 1 and 8 and the strike last Saturday (August 25).

Union General Secretary, Mick Cash, said: "RMT has made every effort to get serious and meaningful talks going with Northern but instead of making progress towards a settlement that matches the best practice in the rail industry, as negotiated elsewhere, the company have opted instead to play fast and loose making a mockery of the exercise.

"It is the pig-headed and arrogant attitude of the company that has forced us to announce this next phase of action and to confirm that the strikes planned from Saturday go ahead.

"RMT members on Arriva Rail North have been in dispute for well over a year now in a battle to put public safety before private profit and we are angry and frustrated that a genuine opportunity to reach an agreement has been kicked back by the company.

"German-owned Northern Rail want to run nearly half a million trains a year without a safety critical guard on board in a move that would wreck both safety and access to services. They should listen to their front-line staff and pull back from that plan immediately.

"RMT recently secured an agreement on Greater Anglia that enshrines the guard guarantee. Similar agreements have also been reached in Wales and Scotland. Arriva Rail North need to do the right thing and come to an agreement that secures a guard on their trains too.

RMT members on Northern Rail are to stage three more one-day strikes.

"We thank the public for their support and understanding throughout this dispute over rail safety and access and the union remains ready for genuine and serious talks."

A Northern spokesman said: "The RMT has announced a total of six days of planned strikes on consecutive Saturdays which will impact on our services.

"We are concentrating our efforts on running as many services as possible to keep our customers moving and will publish details of timetables for each of these days of RMT strike action as soon as we have them.

"All customers are advised to check before travelling and, where necessary, may want to seek alternative modes of transport."

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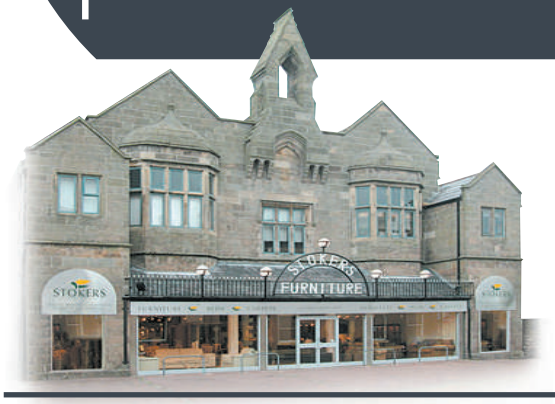

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Council to fly Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day

WEST Lancashire Borough Council will fly the Red Ensign on Monday, September 3 to raise awareness of the UK's dependence on Merchant Navy seafarers.

The Red Ensign flag will be hoisted on the flagstaff outside the council offices at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, at 10am on the day.

Members of the public are invited to go to the ceremony, which will be attended by the Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Noel Delaney; council leader, Councillor Ian Moran; Councillor Terry Devine, the council's Armed Forces Champion and Father Godric Timney, the Mayor's Chaplain, along with councillors and senior council officers.

The council is supporting a nationwide call from the Seafarers UK charity and the Merchant Navy Association for the Merchant Navy's official flag to be flown on public buildings and landmark flagstaffs.

The campaign has also been endorsed by Prince Edward, the Earl of Wessex, who said: "On Merchant Navy Day, I very much hope you will support this campaign by Seafarers UK to remember the sacrifices, salute the courage and support the future of the often unsung personnel of our Merchant Navy. Too often they are the forgotten or invisible service, by raising the Red Ensign you will ensure that at least on this day they are remembered. Your act will mean so much to their families and to the retired, but most especially to those at sea."

Cllr. Delaney said: "I am really pleased the council has been given the opportunity to recognise the Merchant Navy by flying the Red Ensign. The people of the United Kingdom owe a debt of gratitude to the seafarers and the flag raising is an opportunity for us all to pay tribute to the work that they do."

The Red Ensign will be flown at the council offices in Ormskirk on Merchant Navy Day.

As an island nation the UK relies on Merchant Navy seafarers for 95% of imports, including half the food we eat. The UK has the largest ports industry in Europe and 75% of our exports (by volume) are shipped from UK ports.

MP meets with payments regulator

WEST Lancs MP Rosie Cooper attended a parliamentary event hosted by the world's first dedicated economic payments regulator.

Ms Cooper spoke with officials of the Payment Systems Regulator (PSR) about its work to promote competition, innovation and protect the interests of those who use payment systems.

She said: "I was particularly keen to discuss the PSR's work to address key issues such as protecting the current geographic spread of free-to-use ATMs across the UK and driving industry action to protect people against authorised push payment scams where a consumer is tricked into paying a fraudster.

"The PSR have assured me that the work on preventing these scams and developing new consumer protections will bring real benefits to consumers from September."

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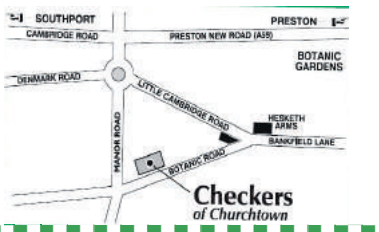

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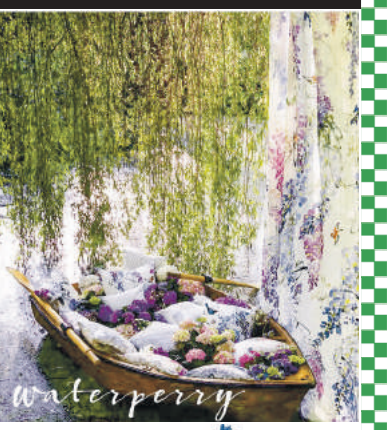

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

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Give us the full facts before asking for suggestions about improving safety on road

WE, the general public, are being asked to offer suggestions as to how to reduce accidents on County Road, Ormskirk but how can we do this?

It is stated that this area has seen many accidents over the years and therefore to make decisions requires information. We need to be informed of what happened and when. No-one can make a judgement without this, at least not one that has relevance with certainty.

The knee-jerk reaction is always to reduce speed, but what if the accident was caused by someone who was driving at an inappropriately low speed causing frustration to following motorists; or they suddenly stopped without warning?

Or a hooligan travelled so fast (beyond the speed limit) and lost control? Or how about mechanical failure? Did the brakes fail, did a wheel fall off?

Or, as I think has happened, someone cutting across the path of an oncoming vehicle because they did not look properly or at all, or because of failing eye sight?

I am aware of a recent accident - not on County Road but it could have been - where a car unexpectedly and suddenly cut across an oncoming vehicle which was travelling at just under 30mph where the impact resulted in devastating and life-threatening injuries to the passenger in the oncoming car.

So until the authorities do as they should and give us a complete resume, do not launch yourself into making any inappropriate judgement. I shall be approaching them to provide this.

Martin Pagett, by email.

Motorists should get on their bikes to become better drivers!

FURTHER to the letter from Gill from Burscough (August 22) I would like to encourage motorists to become better drivers - by becoming cyclists!

I acknowledge that not all cyclists are perfect, but they are all vulnerable when on the road. I took up cycling three years ago and I believe myself to be a much better motorist as a result.

It is recommended to cycle up to one metre from the kerb, to avoid grids and potholes. This also gives the cyclist more presence on the road and hopefully makes them easier to see and should prevent vehicles overtaking cyclists in oncoming traffic.

As a cyclist I am regularly passed by cars who give insufficient room when passing or pull into the kerb to avoid the oncoming traffic, even when going over canal bridges and the like. Where exactly does the motorist expect the cyclist to go? I have even been overtaken when turning left at a junction and I often have to slow for a car turning right ahead of me!

I have learnt since becoming a cyclist to never overtake a cyclist unless it would be safe to overtake another vehicle in the same circumstance and to give the cyclist a similar amount of room to a car when passing.

Yes, it will slow your journey, but only by a few minutes, if that.

Motorists often use this page to complain about potholes. A pothole may cost a motorist a few hundred pounds, it could cost the cyclist their life!

So, instead of abusing cyclists or complaining about them, why not become one and become a better motorist as a result?

Brian Sprague, Ormskirk.

PICTURE of the week

Bobbie the Bichon takes a closer look at one of the new colour-coded signs springing up around parks in Sefton advising owners about dog control areas. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Well done Jamie for drawing attention to blot on town centre

IN response to the article on Page 3 of the Ormskirk Champion (August 22), well done, Jamie Lyon for drawing attention to this horrendous blot on Ormskirk's landscape.

I too have wondered on many occasions why this piece of land has been allowed to be such an eyesore for so long, when it is in such a prominent position, often being the first impression visitors get when they park and walk into the centre.

However, I can't help feeling that if this property developer, who lives locally, but has never considered landscaping or improving this 'grot spot' at a time of economic crisis for many town-centre businesses, he certainly won't be doing it now!

The MD of Stockton Properties must have been aware of the 'Love Ormskirk' campaign and yet has allowed this derelict area, which was only surrounded by hoardings in recent times, to become a huge blot on the town-centre landscape.

He clearly has no philanthropic tendencies and therefore I wouldn't hold your breath and expect any form of 'greenery' to appear.

It will probably be more student accommodation or a nail bar. I hope to be proved wrong!

**Bickerstaffe resident,
by email, details supplied.**

Jim was spot on - as usual!

BORIS was right and Jim Sharpe was spot on as usual in his observations on the burqa.

Jim was only saying what most people in Britain think about this ridiculous throwback to the 6th century.

Well said, Jim and keep all the common sense comments coming please.

Frank Baybutt, Burscough.

Drop us a line...

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Our councillors promise so much but deliver very little

WITH regards to Councillor Furey's letter concerning a new town council (Letters, August 8) perhaps he is worried they might do a better job than he and his cohorts are doing or not doing.

He says we need a new regeneration plan, well he should get his walking shoes on and see the state of the area where I live.

Get that sorted then he can go back to his 'pie in the sky' schemes.

How many years has he been saying things were going to change at the Concourse?

These councillors promise much but deliver very little. It seems to me once the voting is over, you never see them until next election.

David Carter, Skelmersdale.

Council tenants should be grateful

IN response to Paul Roughley's letter headed 'Why do we pay so much for rents in West Lancs borough?', my rent is £160.38 per week and I get zero rent-free weeks per year! I too live in West Lancashire.

It could be worse - a lot worse. Perhaps count yourself lucky that you have a council property which is secured and not at threat if your landlord sells up. Sometimes people need to show a little gratitude.

Stacey Kerin, by email.

How can fracking be called 'sensible' when there are so many health concerns?

FIRSTLY, well done to Nardia Buck with her and Kenny Hughes' sponsored sleep-out at Ormskirk Cricket club on August 25 in aid of local homeless charities.

I will not be sleeping out but will be very happy to donate to such a necessary cause.

I am sure many feel like me that in this day and age there should not be a homeless problem.

Secondly, I cannot believe anyone can really believe fracking is sensible just to bring down gas bills.

I have visited the proposed site in West Lancashire and although clear of immediate houses, it is very close to villages and near to Formby, Southport, Maghull and Ormskirk. There can be side consequences of air pollution, possibility of earth tremors, and many concerns for the health of the whole area.

It is imperative in view of the abandoned site at Preese Hall where tremors were felt in Blackpool that there is a full report available of possible secondary factors dangerous to our environment, rather than to make lots of money for the companies, which ultimately will probably not bring down our gas bills.

Judy Ingman, Town Green.

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If you've just left school, West Lancashire College have a course for you!

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This year the college has seen fabulous BTEC results with many students achieving beyond predicted grades.

Many students achieved triple star Distinctions, making them amongst the best performing BTEC students in the country, including; Lydia Elliott, Applied Science student, who has an unconditional place confirmed for Lancaster University in September. Lydia will be studying Earth and Environmental Science, which includes one years' study abroad in New Zealand! Harry Burns, Performing Arts student is off to Cumbria University to study Musical Theatre and Richard Morris, Business student, will study Business & Facilities Management at Liverpool John Moores University.

Principal, at West Lancashire College, Denise Williamson said: "I would like to congratulate all of our students who have received their results. They have achieved some remarkable grades that are testament to their two years of hard work and the fantastic support of the staff at West Lancashire College.

This academic year has seen some of the best ever results for the College, and it makes me very proud to see our students moving on to universities or into jobs where they will be able to put their great skills and talents to good use."

West Lancashire College has introduced a fleet of new FREE coaches to help you get to college. If you live in Kirkby, Aintree and Maghull, Hawkley, Winstanley, Goose Green, Marus Bridge, Pemberton, Orrell and Upholland, Aughton, Ormskirk, Burscough, Parbold or Newburgh, you can get to college for free.

As a school leaver at the college, you can also benefit from financial bursaries, sports activities and after college clubs, fabulous work placements, university visits, UK and International trips, study support, careers advice and guidance, financial support with kit costs and much, much more!

The college has recently invested in a number of new initiatives and facilities, if Health Care is your chosen career you will have the opportunity to join the college's brand new Health Careers Academy launching this September, and delivered in partnership with major employers including the NHS, Virgin Care and West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group.

If construction is your interest you can join one of the many courses available in the college's newly opened £2.5m Construction, Engineering and Logistic Centre.

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My dogs get on together like sisters who sometimes squabble

I HAVE been running through the history of rough collie dogs called Tina in my life. But I realise now that I rather skimmed over Tina Two, which is a pity because she was something of a star in her own right.

She was very big for a collie bitch - but never in her life did she engage in a fight. She didn't have to as she was sure she would win. And no dog ever got round to finding out if she was right or not. She just gave 'a look' down her long nose and they backed down.

Her best story belongs to a family holiday on the Norfolk Broads (still then in a hired cruiser). We were moored for lunch and Tina was sunning herself on the river bank beside the boat.

Possibly 50 yards or so away another cruiser disgorged a rather large German Shepherd which spotted Tina and started to run towards her. What its intentions were I have no idea. Tina, however, decided she wanted none of it and stood, foursquare across the towpath, simply looking at her approaching would-be nemesis.

It ended rather like a Disney cartoon. The unstoppable Alsatian simply collided at speed with the flank of the (almost) immoveable Tina.

In fact, Tina was shoved sideways about two feet while her assailant was set back on his haunches.

Tina just turned her head and glared at him - and if looks could talk, she most obviously said: 'How DARE you!'.

The surprised dog simply whimpered and ran back to his boat, tail between his legs.

When my present Tina arrived as a pup, my late brother George had his own rough collie, Buttons.

Happily, Tina and Buttons rubbed along together and all was well until two rather tragic events.

Poor Buttons drowned while on holiday on the Broads. She must have been 13 or 14 at the time and we never knew if she had simply fallen in, or possibly had a heart attack and slipped into the river.

It was pitch dark at the time and Buttons and George were returning to the boat when he lost contact with her. Anyway, poor Buttons was no more - and George obtained a new pup, 'Cinders,'

Now George and I were living together in the old family home by then, and we had high hopes that Tina (Four) would 'mother' the puppy. But no, Tina totally ignored the interloper and hoped it would go away.

By the time Cinders was growing into adulthood though the pair of them had settled into more or less an older and younger sister relationship. Which generally is fine - except that sisters can squabble which leads to the thankfully rare fight.

Things did however become more difficult when George died - and little Cinders was left bereft. If she hoped for solace from Tina she would have been disappointed.

Tina obviously expected things to go along as 'normal.' She expected long lone walks with me, and to share my bedroom (sans Cinders) as she had come to expect.

As for Cinders - she behaved rather well. At first she spent long hours lying by the front door awaiting George's return - but I reckon her greed saved her to a large extent, since meals remained sacrosanct.

And after an unsuccessful attempt at allowing both to sleep in my bedroom (a fight broke out at about 3am) Cinders decided she would sleep in George's (and her) old room. So now she must be one of the few dogs in Maghull with her own room.

Now peace generally rules, though Tina tends to bully Cinders and they spend most of their time in different parts of the house.

But they are at their best these days when walking together - and greedy Cinders has even managed to curb her instincts and never, but never, poke her nose into Tina's food bowl until it is empty.

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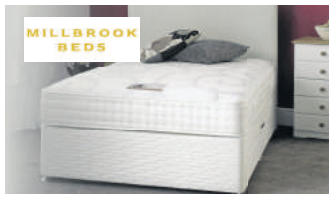

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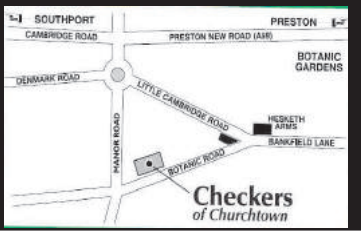

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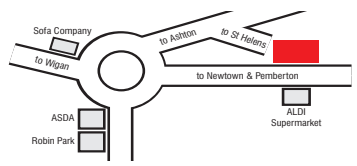

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Chance to take look 'behind the scenes' at hospital Open Day

Trust director welcomes opportunity to highlight services and improvements

MEMBERS of the public are being invited to Southport and Formby District General Hospital on Saturday, September 8, between 11am and 4pm, for their behind-the-scenes Open Day.

Visitors will see how they would deal with a major emergency; ask experts about a range of health issues; visit the theatres; enjoy a range of complimentary therapies or even try tai chi.

Specialist stands, manned by experts will cover dementia, cancer, alcohol misuse, emergency care, maternity, physiotherapy and much more.

Free parking will be available to the rear of the hospital at the North West Regional Spinal Injuries Centre.

Their annual general meeting will also be taking place in this unit, in the MDT room from noon to 1pm and all members of the public are welcome to attend.

At 11am, the new Garden of Reflection will be officially opened and again, all are welcome.

Members of the public are invited to take a look behind the scenes at Southport Hospital Open Day on September 8.

The garden, created with help from local charities, offers a quiet space for patients, families and staff to enjoy.

Therese Patten, Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust's director of strategy, said: "The Open Day is a chance for us to meet the local community in a fun and relaxed setting.

"Often we only see people when they are unwell, or worried about loved ones. The Open Day will give us the chance to talk about our services and show off some of the great improvements which have taken place this year.

"We look forward to welcoming as many local people as possible on the day."

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Hillsborough charges against Bettison dropped

Families of victims vow to fight CPS decision

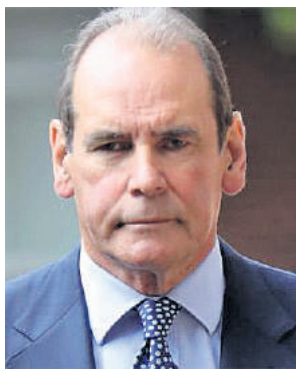
FAMILIES of the 96 Liverpool fans who died in the Hillsborough tragedy have vowed to fight a decision by the Crown Prosecution Service to drop criminal proceedings against former police chief Norman Bettison.

Bettison, a chief inspector with South Yorkshire Police at the time, had been accused of trying to blame Liverpool fans for the 1989 disaster.

The 62-year-old, who attended the game as a spectator and was not on duty, had faced four counts of misconduct in a public office. However, on Tuesday, August 21 it was confirmed these would be dropped.

Prosecutors from the CPS said insufficient evidence meant there was no real prospect of securing a conviction and the decision had been taken following a review of the evidence and confirmed at a hearing at Preston Crown Court.

Sue Hemming, CPS Director of Legal Services, said: "The CPS has a duty to keep all cases under continuing review. Since the original decision to charge Norman Bettison in June 2017 there have been a number of significant



Norman Bettison

developments which have affected the available evidence. These include changes in the evidence of two witnesses and the death of a third witness.

"Our latest review of the evidence has concluded the collective impact of these developments means there is no longer a realistic prospect of conviction. I appreciate this news will be disappointing for the families and the CPS will meet with them in person to explain the decision.

"I would remind all concerned that although criminal proceedings are no longer active against Norman Bettison, there are five other defendants facing charges relating to Hillsborough and each has the right to a fair trial."

Chair of the Hillsborough Family Support Group, Margaret Aspinall, said campaigners had "grave concerns about the handling of the case and will use their right to review the discontinuation of the prosecution."

Reacting to the news, metro mayor of Liverpool city region Steve Rotheram issued a joint statement with Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham. They said: "We are disappointed to hear this news and we fully support the decision of the families to seek a review. As long-standing supporters of the campaign for justice, our thoughts are with the bereaved families and survivors of the Hillsborough disaster, still re-living that day and its aftermath almost 30 years on. We will continue to support them in any way we can."

Five other people, including match commander David Duckenfield, who is accused of manslaughter by gross negligence of 95 fans, are due to face trial next year.

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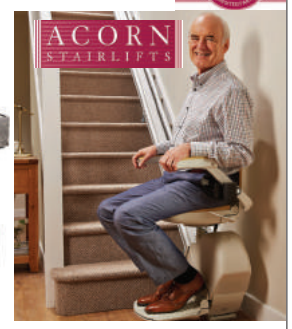

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Advice line reminder for young people

STUDENTS with concerns about A-level or GCSE results or any other issues are reminded that help, support and guidance is available from Talkzone, Lancashire County Council's dedicated advice and support service.

Young people between the ages of 12 and 19 can access the service by telephone, text, webtalk, email or Facebook. It is also available for any young person up to the age of 25 with a disability.

The Talkzone service, is available from 2 to 10pm each day including weekends and bank holidays. Staff are able to talk about a wide range of issues - not just exams - including feeling low, relationships, leaving home or contraceptive advice.

Since it was set up 24 years ago, Talkzone advisers have responded to thousands of enquiries from young people on a huge range of issues.

Talkzone manager, Gaja Gannon, said: "Although the majority of the calls we take in August are about worries over A-levels and GCSEs, we're available 365 days a year to talk to any young person about any concerns they have."

Young people can call Talkzone on 0800 511 111; text on 07786 511 111; email talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk; access webtalk services at www.lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone; or visit www.facebook.com/LancashireYPS.

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Breathe Easy group learn about care trust's support for mental health issues

ROB Lea of the Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's Mindsmatter support team was guest speaker at the latest meeting of the West Lancashire and Southport Breathe Easy group held at the Guide HQ in Green Lane, Ormskirk.

Rob Lea, from Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's Mindsmatter support team, at the West Lancashire and Southport Breathe Easy group's latest meeting.

Patricia Ireland of the Breathe Easy group said: "Mindsmatter addresses common mental health problems in long-term health Conditions, such as stress, depression and anxiety, which are very common conditions in the general population and can cause untold distress to sufferers.

"Moreover, patients with long-term health conditions - such as our own members, i.e. respiratory patients - are very prone to such problems, especially as their health problems progress. It has even been estimated that on average one in three patients in GPs' waiting rooms are there owing to these problems.

"The good news is that excellent help and support is available in both Sefton and West Lancashire. Rob explained that one can directly self-refer in order to access this support. His presentation was excellent and he gave out printed copies of his notes to all who wished for them.

"For West Lancashire, the self-referral telephone number is 01695 684177 and a similar service is available in Sefton on 0300 303 2708.

"Rob called to one of our meetings in spring and gave a brief outline about the service since when two members of our group have accessed the service and found it to be an excellent help."

The next meeting of the group will be held on Monday, September 17 when the talk will be led by local Respiratory Consultant, Dr. Sacha Youzguin, who is based at Southport Hospital.

All respiratory patients, partners, friends and carers will be made most welcome. For more information ring Trish on 07528 702 203.

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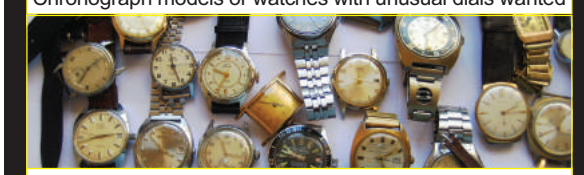

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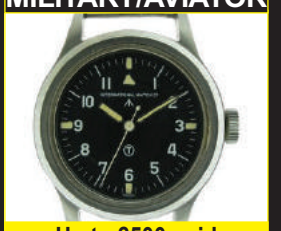

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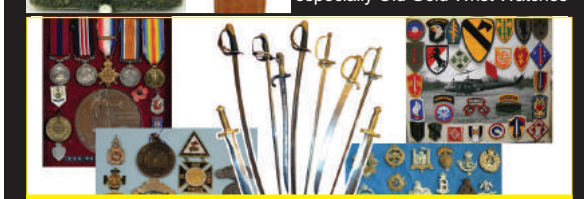

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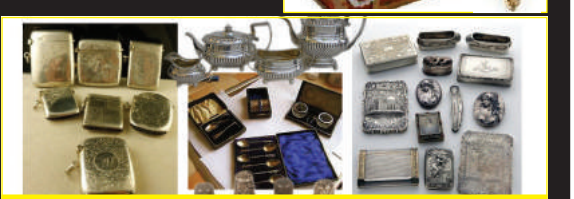

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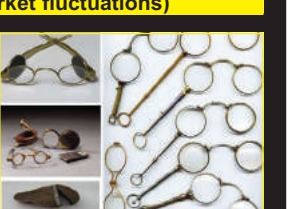

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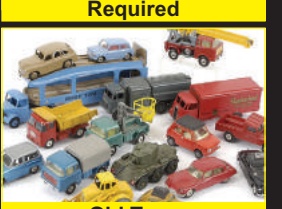

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Members of Kayleigh's Fitness Run Club after they competed the gruelling Lakeland 50 long distance trail race.

'Rookie' runners complete gruelling Lakeland marathon

Report by **Kenny Parker**

MEMBERS of a West Lancs fell running club have completed a gruelling 50-mile race over Lake District terrain less than a year after taking up the sport.

The Lakeland 50 - described as "one of the greatest ultra running challenges in Europe" by event organiser Epic Events - involves climbs over 10,000 feet.

A total of 18 members of Kayleigh's Fitness Run Club, based in Hilldale and Parbold, completed the race in times varying between 11 and 21 hours, despite contending with unprecedented weather conditions, including high winds, heavy downpours, thunder storms and hail.

Club member, Alexandra Connolly, who was unable to take part due to injury, said: "The bunch of rookies, affectionately dubbed the 'Yellow Army', had little or no prior running experience at the start of their journey but fortunately the nine months of training paid off and when their legs could no longer carry them they ran with their heart to cross the 50-mile finish line, cheered on by members and supporters of the club."

Alexandra said that each member had different personal reasons for entering the 'brutal challenge' but their efforts also raised money for various charities.

Challenges

Kayleigh Ralph started the club about two years ago and runs it with the help of her family. From just a couple of founding members it is now 45-strong.

Setting off every Sunday at 9am from Hilldale Village Hall, the club mainly covers the Parbold Hill area with a mixture of walking and running.

Over the past year Kayleigh has started slowly increasing the distance members take and has set them each personal challenges, such as local trail and fell races around Ashurst Beacon and Rivington Pike.

And for those who took part in the Lakeland 50, the training certainly paid off and Kayleigh was delighted with the results.

She said: "I could burst with pride thinking about what they've achieved. Each member has committed wholeheartedly to the nine months of training and endured some really harsh conditions - from heatwaves and torrential downpours through to blizzards and windchills.

"But even more so than their physical fitness, their Lakeland 50 success is a testament to their mental strength as it takes so much determination to keep going right the way through the night and when your legs feel like lead to hit that 50-mile marker. It's incredible."

County awarded cash for speed camera plan to improve safety on A581 in Rufford

AVERAGE speed cameras are due to be introduced in a bid to improve safety on five roads in Lancashire, including the A581 Rufford to Euxton.

Lancashire County Council has received more than £7.9m from a Department for Transport fund to improve the safety on five routes identified by the Safer Roads Foundation as dangerous.

A report to the county cabinet outlined proposals for the schemes, including average speed cameras and other safety measures, to be delivered over the next three to four years.

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Opticians' new technology means that specs wearers can now see themselves as others do

A LOCAL opticians is providing a new virtual try-on technology that promises to take the guess work out of buying glasses.

Specsavers, which has a branch at Church Street, Ormskirk, say they are excited to launch Frame Styler which will be offered to every customer.

The new technology, exclusive to Specsavers, allows customers to see how they look wearing glasses from every angle, seeing themselves as others would see them. Working with in-store frame advisors, a tablet using Frame Styler technology will be used to take a scan of the customer's face, analysing their face shape, examining their purchase history and marrying the results with the latest trends.

Some 36 frames will be recommended to each customer and then narrowed down, allowing the customer to flick through images of themselves wearing the different frames without taking their glasses off.

To mark the introduction of Frame Styler, the opticians has also unveiled 'The Confidence Scale' which charts how British people feel about their appearance as they get older. Research by Specsavers found that Brit's confidence peaks at 30 and that 20 million Brits wish they had a better sense of style

Neil Pearson, store director, says: "The Specsavers Confidence Scale shows people want to branch out with their frame choices but confusion over different styles and lack of confidence is holding them back. We wanted to make it easier for them. Our Frame Styler technology uses an image of the face to work out what styles are best suited to any face shape."

Postcard plan to bring a ray of sunshine to care home residents

PEOPLE are being encouraged to send postcards to residents in care homes across Lancashire when they go on holiday or take a day out this summer.

The idea is that by simply saying 'hello' and sharing a little information about a trip, an activity or the place they visit, people can help to brighten someone's day.

It is hoped this will help bring back memories of past holidays and will spark conversations between people who live in the care home.

Research shows that this type of discussion has many health benefits, especially for people living with dementia.

The initiative - Postcards for Kindness - is being run by Lancashire County Council and several care homes have signed-up to be part of the scheme, including all homes run by the authority.

County Councillor Graham Gooch, Lancashire's cabinet member for adult services, said: "By taking a few minutes to send a postcard telling someone about your holiday or day out, you could make a real difference to their lives.

"It may bring back happy memories or encourage them to talk to others and research shows this has many health benefits, especially for people living with dementia.

"Tackling loneliness and isolation among older people is a key health issue and also includes people who live in care homes. Postcards for Kindness is a key part of our plans.

"Sending the postcard will help you connect with others, which will have a positive effect on your wellbeing too. Why not give it a try and get your friends and family involved?"

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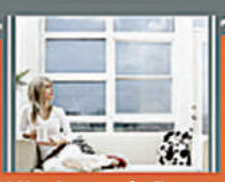
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Wed 19th Sept	Bury's World Famous Market	£14.00	£10.00
Tues 25th Sept	Yorkshire Dales	£18.75	£13.50
OCTOBER			
Tues 4th October	Boundary Mill at Colne	£14.40	£10.40
Wed 10th October	Whitby & North Yorkshire Moors	£21.00	£15.40
Tues 16th October	Autumn in the English Lake District	£18.25	£13.20
Tues 23rd October	Trafford Centre	£14.00	£10.00
Mon 29th October	Skipton on Market Day	£14.95	£10.80
NOVEMBER			
Fri 2nd November	Blackpool Illuminations	£14.50	£10.40
Tues 6th November	Lowry Shopping Complex and Salford Quays	£14.00	£10.00
Fri 9th November	Tweed Mill Shopping Outlet and Llandudno	£17.95	£12.95
Wed 14th November	Bury Market	£14.00	£10.00
Tues 20th November	Chester City for Christmas Shopping	£14.40	£10.40
Sat 24th November	Knitting & Stitching Show at Harrogate (Coach Only)	£17.50	£12.75
Wed 28th November	Boundary Mill Store at Colne	£14.40	£10.40
Fri 30th November	Manchester for Christmas Shopping	£14.00	£10.00
DECEMBER			
Sat 1st December	Skipton & Grassington Dickensian Festival	£18.75	£13.50
Sat 1st December	York for St Nicholas Christmas Fayre	£19.80	£14.25
Wed 5th December	Trafford Centre at Christmas	£14.00	£10.00
Sat 8th December	Chatsworth Farm Shop & House at Christmas	£41.50	£33.00
Sun 9th December	Skipton Yuletide Festival & Market	£16.00	£11.60

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Rain can't dampen spirits at MotorFest!

Trophy time for winners

Above: Deputy Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Gaynar Owen presents the 'Mayor's Choice' Trophy at Sunday's Ormskirk MotorFest to Chris Walker for his 11962 Aston Martin DB4. Also pictured are Deputy Mayoress, Bernie Green; judge, David Simister; and Mike Ashcroft from event organisers the Aintree Circuit Club.

Left: Councillor Owen presents George Cross with his trophy for Best in Show at Motorfest.

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Hoping to grab a bucketful of cash for a good cause were Southport racing driver Ben Wallace and Burscough-based Tony Robinson of The Lancelots support group for children with diabetes.

● Above: Sunday's downpours clearly didn't deter these hardy spectators who braved the rain to line the route for Ormskirk's 2018 MotorFest.

● Left: Open-top motoring enthusiasts set off on a parade around Ormskirk in their MG

Scouts' helping hand for Mayor's Charities

● Below: Members of the 37th Ormskirk St Anne's Scouts held a stall at the MotorFest to raise funds on behalf of the Mayor's Charities.

The Champ's *Life on Cars* correspondent David Simister (left) judging in Coronation Park.

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Edge Hill Students' Union rated among top dozen in UK

A NEW national student survey has rated Edge Hill University's students' union as one of the top dozen in the UK.

More than 7,000 students cast their votes on university review website, StudentCrowd, in a survey to find which university offers the best students' union experience.

Edge Hill Students' Union was praised by students taking part for the support given to them in difficult times and the breadth of new events offered over the past year.

The students' union at Edge Hill University has been rated among the best in the UK in a national survey.

Effective

SU president at the Ormskirk campus, Joe Bradford, said: "Edge Hill Students' Union has undergone vast changes over the past two years, and we're doing more than ever to engage with as many students as possible, through a more effective representation structure, sports and societies, our Advice Centre, and our events and commercial outlets.

"We're by no means at the finish line, but this award is a great sign to show we're moving in the right direction."

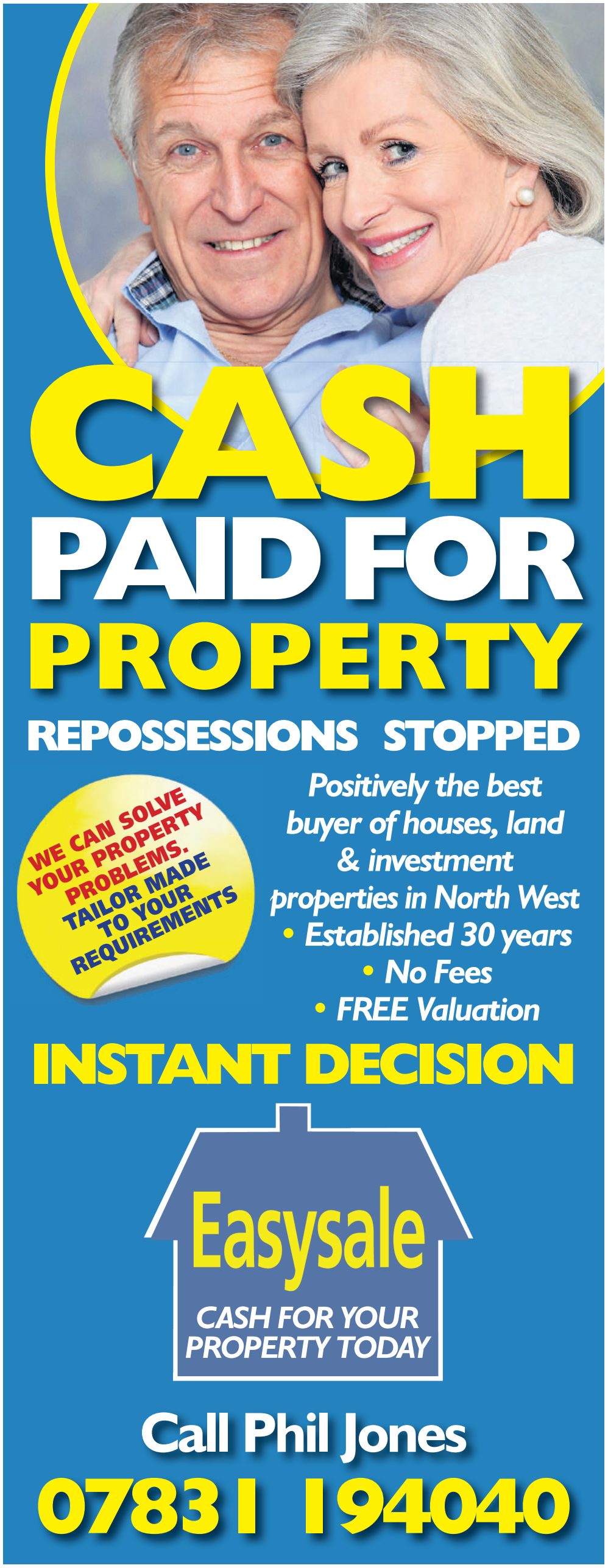
Edge Hill's was the only North West-based students' union to make the top 20, with several major city and London universities also failing to hit the list.

The StudentCrowd 2018 Awards aim to help prospective students choose the right university for them and help universities improve their offering.

StudentCrowd director, Paul Humphries, said: "The 2018 Best Students' Union Awards were designed to showcase the very best in class when it comes to students' unions. As opposed to other 'best of' lists like this, our awards are based completely on thousands of reviews from students themselves.

"Not only is this a great recognition of the unions included, it also acts as a resource for students looking to learn more about the environment of the university they are looking to attend. After all, choosing your university is one of the biggest decisions you have to make at that point in your life."

Got a story? Ring the Champ News Desk on 01704 392400 or email editorial@champnews.com



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ADVERTISING FEATURE

KATIE IS SET TO SHARE HER SLIMMING SECRETS

A slimmer who transformed her life by losing 5 stone is using her success to shape a whole new career helping other people change their lives and achieve their weight loss dreams too.

Katie joined her local Slimming World group in Maghull 5 years ago and has since dropped from 17 stone to 12 stone.

Katie has now trained as a Consultant for Slimming World, the UK's largest group-based weight loss organisation, at their national training academy in Derbyshire. Now she is opening her own group in Melling at The Ratepayers Club on Waddicar Lane on Wednesday 5th September at 7.30pm.

She says: "Obesity is becoming such a huge issue across the UK. When I first joined Slimming World as a member, I never dreamed that I would end up helping other people to lose weight but now I just can't wait to get started. After losing 5st and completing my training, it's a privilege for me to be able to pass on the experience, insight and understanding that helped me, so that I can give my members the support they need to get to target.

"Support is really the most important thing. It all starts with feeling that you're not alone. I couldn't have lost 5 stone without the weekly help, encouragement and understanding of my own Consultant and group. As someone who has lost weight myself I know the challenges people can face, which is why, along with the group, I will be there to support every one of my members all the way to their chosen target weight. Setting targets, sharing recipes and other ideas, and working together as a group to overcome challenges and celebrate success is so important to a successful journey. That's why, at my Slimming World group, there'll be tons of support, encouragement and fun.

"Like a lot of slimmers, I had tried to lose weight so many times before by following numerous diets but they were never sustainable because I'd always get tired of restricting what I ate. I thought I was destined to struggle with my weight for the rest of my life, but when I came to Slimming World it was different. I never felt like I was on a diet. The eating plan encourages you to eat lots of tasty, filling foods like pasta, rice, potatoes and lean meat and fish, you are never hungry and no foods are banned so there's no deprivation. I couldn't believe I'd found a way to lose weight without starving myself.

'I followed the Plan right through both of my pregnancies and simply by eating my usual favourite foods...cooked in a healthier way I limited my pregnancy weight gain.

My second child Lydia is dairy free and i was worried that I might not be able to food Optimise whilst I was breastfeeding her but after chatting with my Consultant I was able to source suitable foods and continued with my weight loss. Both my kids now enjoy tasty and healthier meals and I can't wait to share my experience with my new members.'

Sue Culligan who runs th Slimming World Hub In Maghull and manages Katie as a Team Developer, says: "Slimming World Consultants are chosen for their positive outlook and because they genuinely care about the health and happiness of others. With Katie's experience of being a successful Slimming World member and her kind and warm personality and great sense of humour I just know that she'll be an amazing support to members, cheering them all the way to their target weight."

Katie''s Slimming World group will be held at The Melling Ratepayers Club, Waddicar Lane every Wednesday at 7.30pm from 5th September. For more information or to join Katie's group either pop along on the 5th September or call her on 07469 193445

MUMS THE WORD WHEN IT COMES TO WEIGHT LOSS

Local Mum Michelle Doyle who has lost 4 stone with Slimming World is now ready to help others do the same as she calls for a radical rethink to the way that people who struggle with their weight are treated after a survey by Slimming World and Netmums revealed that 84% of mums beat themselves up because of their weight.

The survey of 2,946 mums found that a further 89 per cent of mums feel guilty about not looking after their family as well as they'd like to and 24 per cent feel guilty for being at work when they think they should be at home.

Michelle says that the survey reveals a ticking timebomb of guilt that will continue to fuel obesity problems unless we take a radically different approach to weight management.

"Many of us, whether we're mums, dads or just dealing with day to day stress, feel under increasing pressure to achieve perfection in all areas of our lives," says Michelle "Celebrity culture, magazines, indeed our whole way of life is geared towards encouraging us to compare ourselves with other people and to only feel content when we think we're doing better than others. However, this ultra-competitive society is not good for our wellbeing because we are setting ourselves impossible ideals.

"Slimming World's support has always focused on raising people's self-esteem and self-confidence so that members feel empowered to take control of their lives, and develop new habits and behaviours to manage their weight without guilt," says Michelle "By helping people to feel more positive about themselves, and able to manage feelings of guilt and shame, we are much more likely to make changes and succeed with our weight loss in the long term and pass on new healthy habits to our families too."

'After walking into my local Slimming World group in 2016 I knew that not only did I have to do something about my weight but that I had to make changes for my family too. I went from grilling pizza and burning boiled eggs to preparing fresh home cooked, healthier options which the whole family enjoyed. Family favourites are now chilli beefbake and chicken satay and I still have a glass or two of wine at the weekend too' Says Michelle.

Ive now completed my Consultant Training and Im really looking forward to helping other people, especially local mums to make the better choices and achieve the healthier & happier lifestyle they dream of...not just for them but for their families too!'

'It was the lovely comments and compliments I received from other mums on the daily school run that inspired and motivated me to keep going, especially on those tougher weeks and with the support of my fellow members in group I was determined to succeed ..and I did! Im really looking forward to showing my new members just how amazing Food Optimising is and just how Extra Easy losing weight can be!'

Michelles brand new SlimmingGroup launches on Thursday 30th August at 7.30 in the Emmanuel Church, Higher Lane, Fazakerly (Facing Longmoor Social Club) and you can contact her on 07883 159082 if youd like to know more or check out the website - www.slimmingworld.co.uk.
Regards

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LYDIATE
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Paula: 07484 263698

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
11am & 1pm
Sue: 07817 444580

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 01695 420 305

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
6.30pm
Michelle: 07931 125172

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
9.30am & 11.30am
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
5pm & 7pm
Paula: 07484 263698

TUESDAY

CHESHIRE LINES
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
5pm & 7pm
Sheila: 07827 335824

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698

WEDNESDAY

MELLING
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(Ratepayers Club)
Melling
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Katie: 07469 193445
NEW CONSULTANT FROM 5TH SEPTEMBER

CHESHIRE LINES
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9.30am
Sheila: 07827 335824

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
4.30 & 6.30pm
Emma: 07414 223 617

UP HOLLAND
UpHolland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302

UP HOLLAND
UpHolland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302

BURSCOUGH
Burscough Cricket Club
School Lane
3.30pm, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Kathy: 07815 199346

THURSDAY

FAZAKERLEY
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Michelle: 07883 159082
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Zoe: 01695 580 966

MAGHULL
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Sefton Lane
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Sue: 07957 531346

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
4.30pm & 6.30pm
Sarah: 07792 146342

FRIDAY

ORMSKIRK
New Pavilion
Ormskirk Cricket Club
Altys Lane
9am
Zoe: 01695 580966

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9:30am & 11:30am
Sue: 07957 531346

SATURDAY

KIRKBY
St. Martins Church
Peatwood Avenue
7.30, 9.30 & 11.30am
Emma: 07414 223617

OLD SKELMERSDALE
Greenhill Community Room
Beech Close
(Off Lancaster Cres)
8am & 10am
Sarah: 07969 395302

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club
Green Lane
7.30am & 9.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
St Anne's School, Aughton Street, Ormskirk
10.30am & 12.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
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8.30am & 10.30am
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Creative companies urged to showcase their skills on free online directory

CREATIVE companies in Lancashire are being encouraged to sign-up to an innovative and free online directory to showcase their skills to potential clients.

The online directory, produced by Creative Lancashire - a service provided by Lancashire County Council - is an effective way for companies to find the creative skills and expertise they need.

You can see the directory and companies can upload their own profile at http://directory.creativelancashire.org.

Since it was launched in 2016, the county council says the site has helped many companies to bring about new partnerships and collaborations, bring in new business and bring people together with the skills and services they need.

Ed Matthews-Gentle from Creative Lancashire said: "If your company is part of the creative sector, then this directory can help you to attract new business.

"More than 500 business ranging from creative agencies, freelancers and those providing related professional services have signed up from across the creative sector. The value of this directory will further increase as more businesses sign up to it.

"Our aim is to link up companies, so a company from any sector looking for creative services can find what they're looking for. On the directory people can search by specific types of business, the service they are looking for or location if you need to connect with someone in your area.

"All businesses are increasingly reliant on creative talent to further their business. We want to make it easier for people to find the creative services they need. We have a wealth of creative businesses here in Lancashire and it's important to make the most of the potential that's out there."

For more information visit www.creativelancashire.org for follow them on twitter @CreativeLancs.

Just the ticket for our competition winners!

THE lucky winners of the Champion's competition for tickets to see Crooners at the Southport Theatre were Derek Twine from Burscough; Mr and Mrs Chandler of Bootle; Dorothy Gerrard from Aintree; and Barbara Crowder from Southport.

And the winners of our competition to see Titanic at the Liverpool Empire were Anita Jackson from Mere Brow; Kath Cross from Southport; Margaret Westway from Crosby; Elaine D'arcy from Netherton; and A. J. Waite from Ormskirk.

County education chiefs salute 'positive' exam results

County Councillor Susie Charles.

EDUCATION chiefs at Lancashire County Council say pupils in the county have once again performed well and chalked up some impressive GCSE results.

Provisional results from schools show that more than 64% of students have achieved Grade 4 or above in both English and maths. Grade 4 is roughly equivalent to a C grade in previous years.

County Councillor Susie Charles, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "I hope that our students are justifiably proud of themselves. These results are the reward for a great deal of hard work by students and their teachers to meet the demands of the challenging requirements of this year's GCSE exams.

"Although it isn't possible to make a proper comparison with national statistics at this stage, until they are released in October, I'm proud to say that the number of our students achieving good grades can only be seen as being very positive. The results show that standards remain genuinely high in our schools.

"I've been constantly impressed by what I see in our schools. I'm so proud of our families, teachers and school staff who have worked very hard to support our pupils.

"I'd also like to congratulate and thank our students themselves for all their hard work. These results are a credit to them and a great achievement."

And John Readman, interim executive director of education and children's services, added: "I am delighted to congratulate students on their well-earned success which will stand them in good stead for the future.

"These results are a tribute to the effort they have made and also to the dedication and the high quality of teaching across the county."

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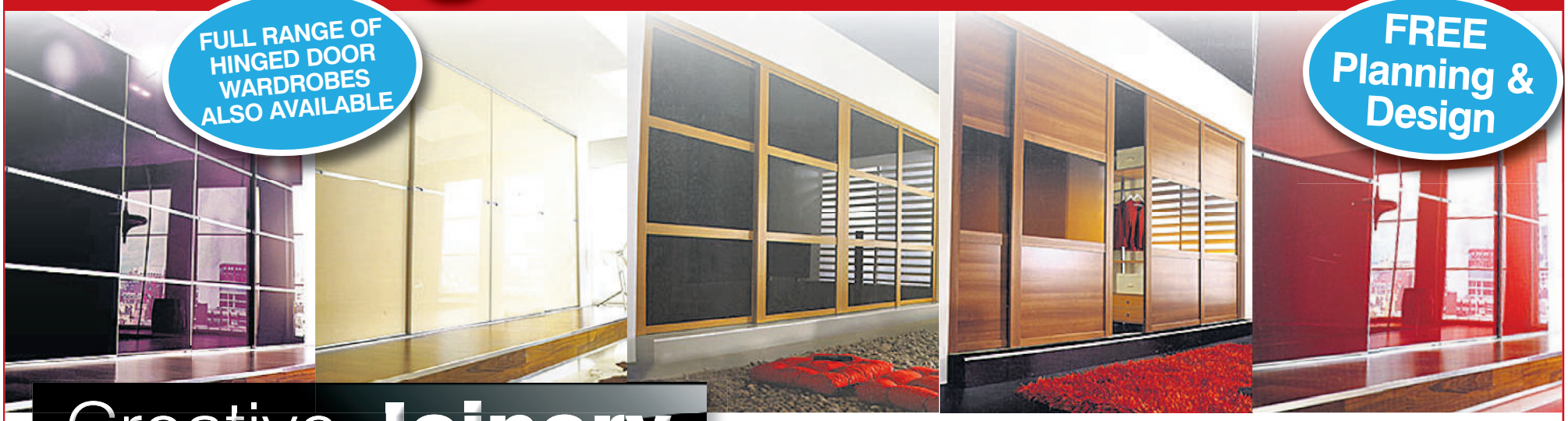

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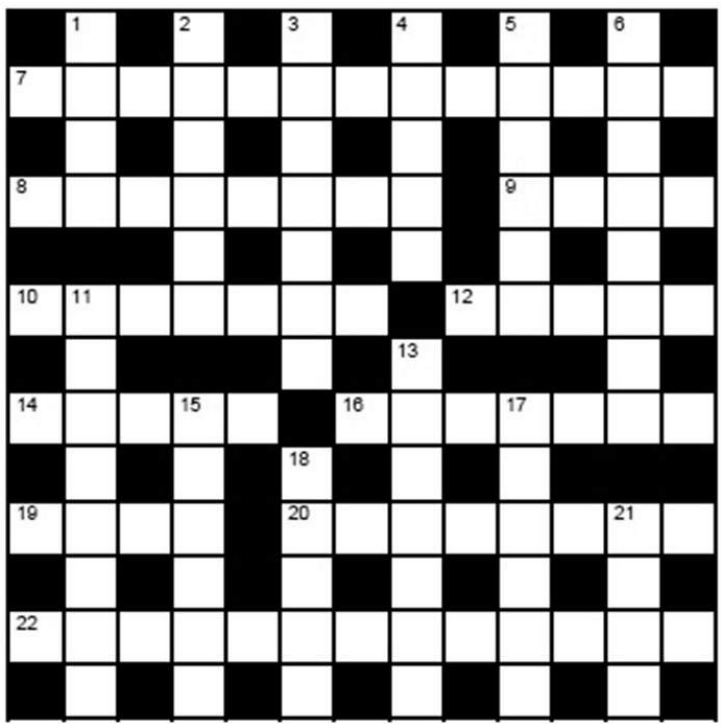

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Halves. 8. Invite. 9. Pier. 10. Nominate. 11. Satsuma. 13. Sober. 15. U-boat. 17. Burgeon. 20. Forelimb. 21. Reel. 22. Dotage. 23. Gadfly.

Down: 1. Patina. 2. Ever. 3. Tsunami. 4. Sigma. 5. Evensong. 6. Statue. 12. Space bar. 14. Lumbago. 16. Boo-boo. 18. Openly. 19. Ricer. 21. Ride.

ACROSS

7. Too embarrassing, offensive, or shocking to be spoken about (13)
8. Determined (8)
9. American big cat also known as cougar or mountain lion (4)
10. Senior pupil in some schools authorised to enforce discipline (7)
12. Dried, preserved plum with wrinkled appearance (5)
14. Not fresh (5)
16. One of a series of reflective studs set into a road (4-3)
19. Ballpoint pen inventor (4)
20. Inoffensive (8)
22. Area of a hotel or other building for receiving visitors (9, 4)

DOWN

1. Joint between the thigh and the lower leg (4)
2. Begin a journey (3, 3)
3. Loyal (7)
4. Colloquial term meaning of poor quality (5)
5. Overindulge or spoil someone (6)
6. Mercy (8)
11. Fee paid to secure the services of someone, especially a lawyer, on a regular basis (8)
13. Person devoted to his or her country (7)
15. Person who steals from shops or houses during a riot or in wartime (6)
17. Fixed regular payment to an employee (6)
18. Eighth letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
21. Fog or haze intensified by smoke or other atmospheric pollutants (4)

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Alan Lewis and Jimmy Matthews (first and second left) from Skelmersdale Veterans' Association pictured with members of Football 4 Forces receiving the cheque from Colonel Ray Hughes.

Army's £5k donation to veterans football project

Report by **Henry James**

FOOTBALL 4 Forces, Wigan Athletic's Community Trust's weekly footballing programme for current or former service personnel, which is open to members of the Skelmersdale Veterans' Association, has received a donation of £5,000 from the British Army.

Football 4 Forces offers free sessions taking place at Robin Park Arena (5.30 to 7pm) and Wigan Youth Zone (11am to noon) every Monday and Thursday.

Aiming to improve the health and wellbeing of the armed forces community, the scheme was launched in 2015 and also helps participants to feel less socially isolated.

Colonel Ray Hughes, assistant commander from the North West headquarters, said: "I am absolutely delighted that the Army have once again been able to support the Football 4 Forces project because the programme makes a real difference to the lives of the armed forces community in Wigan and surrounding areas."

He added: "The project will continue to thrive and deliver lasting benefits, and we'll closely work with the Community Trust so that we can identify and develop further opportunities to support, when needed, our network of veterans and their families."

Participants also have the opportunity to complete various coaching and refereeing qualifications as part of the programme, while also becoming volunteers for the Community Trust, attending Latics fixtures and playing football matches against other clubs and organisations.

In addition, lifestyle workshops are being held to raise awareness of subjects such as diet, nutrition, healthy eating, mental health and the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Meanwhile, the Skelmersdale Veterans' Association have received funding from the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund to buy a football kit to play other veterans' groups and other walking football teams across the North West, in partnership with Wigan Athletic Community Trust.

Chairman of Skelmersdale Veterans' Association, Alan Lewis, said: "We would like to thank a number of people, including Mr and Mrs Keeling; Robby; Aorran Martin, Colonel Ray Hughes and most of all The Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund."

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The Prodigy

Dance act The Prodigy announce Arena tour

THE Prodigy has announced they will play Echo Arena Liverpool on Thursday, November 8 to tie in with their seventh studio album No Tourists which is released on November 2.

Always uncompromising, The Prodigy's influence can be seen across generations, turning metal kids onto raving and ravers into metalheads.

The band has clocked up a staggering six number one albums, sold 30 million records, played to many millions around the world, and won multiple honours (two Brits, two Kerrang! awards, five MTV awards, two Grammy nominations).

Though much has changed in the musical and social landscape, what remains a constant is The Prodigy's resolute focus to always do things their own unique way.

Douglas Music to begin new season with guitar quartet

PARBOLD Douglas Music begins its new season with The Aquarelle Guitar Quartet in a performance in the Auditorium in the Village Hall WN8 7DN on Saturday, September 22 at 7.45pm.

From their roots at the Royal College of Music Manchester more than a decade ago, the Aquarelle Quartet is now acknowledged as one of Britain's leading music groups. These four classical guitarists (Michael Baker, Vasilis Bessas, James Jervis and Rory Russell) are praised as a dynamic and innovative quartet that is known for their extraordinary ensemble in performance. Aquarelle's original arrangements of music from a wide range of styles, periods and cultures is a feature of their performances.

Their Parbold programme draws on music from four continents and a host of styles and genres, featuring many of the group's most popular performance pieces, in what the Gramophone calls their "blend of high-octane virtuosity, relaxed lyricism, tonal richness and perfection of ensemble".

For tickets visit www.parbolddouglasmusic.org , e-mail: tickets@parbolddouglasmusic.org or telephone: 01257 498452 (booking answerphone). A limited number of stand-by tickets are always available at the Box Office on the evening of the concert.

For their Saturday evening Parbold programme Aquarelle will present a variety of music from arrangements of orchestral works by Rossini, or classical guitar tangoes and dances by Astor Piazzolla and Carlos Rivera, to film music by Gustavo Santaolalla from the Argentinian film The Motorcycle Diaries about the young Che Guevara, and the sound-track by Ryuichi Sakamoto for the David Bowie's film Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence.

The Aquarelle Quartet will also be performing concerts for 400 local primary school children on Friday, September 21 in the Auditorium, Parbold Village Hall, as part of Parbold Douglas Music's Pied Piper series of children's concerts. On Friday, September 14, accompanied by Parbold Douglas Music volunteers, Aquarelle will be touring 'pop-up' performances in shopping malls and supermarkets in Wigan, Skelmersdale, Chorley and Burscough to announce the opening of Parbold Douglas Music's 2018-19 season

Aquarelle are shown

editorial@champnews.com.

Magic and mayhem promised when Sooty returns

FOLLOWING a popular UK tour last year Sooty, Sweep and Soo are back on the road this Autumn, with a new date announced at Southport Theatre on Saturday, September 8 at 10.30am.

Ahead of the launch of a new series of The Sooty Show airing on ITVBe in September, and following the recent celebrations at Blackpool Pier for Sooty's 70th birthday in July, Sooty, Sweep and Soo head to Southport Theatre accompanied by TV's Richard Cadell and special guest magicians Michael Jordan and Darren Mac Magic.

Expect magic, music and mayhem, with buckets full of audience participation. There will also be a chance to meet Richard and Sooty after the show. Join us for this sparkling new production, but definitely don't expect Sooty to be on his best behaviour…!

Of the newly announced Southport date, Richard Cadell said: "Sooty can't wait to come to Southport Theatre! Not only will his fans be able to enjoy lots of laughs and fun with the nation's favourite bear, Sooty and I will also be joined by his companions Sweep and Soo. Sooty's got a new high-powered water pistol for this special occasion, so bring your raincoats!"

editorial@champnews.com

Sooty, Sweep, Soo and Richard. Photo by Steve Ullathorne

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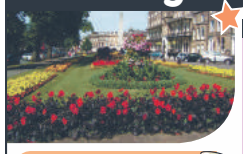

DINNER, BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED

★2 NTS Arrive Friday	★4 NTS Arrive Monday
7, 14, 21, 28 Sep 5, 12, 19, 26 Oct 2*, 9*, 16*, 23*, 30* Nov 7*, 14 Dec	10, 17, 24 Sep 1, 8, 15 Oct 2019 22, 29 Apr
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Fri 16 Nov	Freddie Mercury	Robbie Williams	£85	£115
Fri 30 Nov	Elvis	Tom Jones	£85	£115

Scarborough — Grand Hotel

	Friday Tribute	Saturday Tribute	2 NTS	3 NTS
Fri 5 Oct	Freddie Mercury	Robbie Williams	£89.95	£119.95
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	Friday Tribute	Saturday Tribute	2 NTS	3 NTS
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Fri 9 Nov	Johnny Cash	Dolly Parton	£89.95	£119.95

Llandudno — Bay County Hotel

	Friday Tribute	Saturday Tribute	2 NTS	3 NTS
Fri 23 Nov	Elton John	Rod Stewart	£99	£119
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MOUNTAIN BIKE Ladies Mountain Bike 18 gears Purple As new Fantastic Bargain at only £50 (third of new price) 01704 536838

GIRLS BIKE Carrera junior hybrid. 20inch wheel suit 7-11yrs. 7 speed Shimano gears. Purple pink trim. Excellent condition. £60 Buyer collect 07811384402

BMX BIKE Mongoose BMX Blue Bike 20 inch with stunt pegs. Excellent Condition £130 o.n.o 07787323036

FOR SALE gents mountain bike 18 speed twist grip gear change immaculate in red and silver £50 ono. 07935312489

CHILD'S BIKE Suit 3 to 6 years excellent condition with removable stabiliser colour white £15 01695228433

BIKES

BOYS BIKE 18" wheel, Apollo Outrage (Halfords), very good condition. £50 07443649532

GENTS RALEIGH mountain bike, 18 speed, Shimano gears, new back tyre, £25 01704 893926

CLOTHING

VINTAGE JACKETS Mens jackets Tweed/Wool/Linen/Cotton 40/42" chest in excellent condition. Jaeger/Watson Prickard etc from £15. Email pictures available, buyer collects. 0151 2860268

MEN'S SLIPPERS New black boot style slippers, with velcro fastening, good quality. Size 9/10. With quality soles. Could be used outside. £10.00 07387439004

STANLEY HIGH Boys Uniform YR10/11 - Blazer, jumpers + sports kit inc. shorts, rugby & PE tops. Size 38/40". Like New. £30 - 07871295223

LEATHER COAT Ladies size 12 dark brown full length with drop waist detail on the back. Excellent condition £60 0151 9321725

BRIDESMAID DRESSES Two coral size 12 dresses 3/4 length with Plait detail around neckline. Perfect condition. 30 pound each. 0151 932725

LEATHER COAT Ladies Dark Brown full length coat with drop waist detail on back Size 12 Excellent condition. £60 0151 9321725

BRIDESMAID DRESSES Two Coral 3/4 length dresses with plait detail around neckline. Excellent condition. £30 each 0151 9321725

LADIES DRESSES size 14-16, new, one long Harrods, others Dorothy Perkins, all for £100 or will separate, £20 long, others £15 07845 179075

HUGO BOSS Mens Golf Polo Top Moisture Manager Blue Size xl Cost Over £100 From Formby Hall Excellent Bargain £25 07773242918

3 X Ladies Hotter Shoes all new still in boxes 2 x size 4 & half the other size 4 bargain £15 each 07773242918

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CLOTHING

BOYS CLOTHES Aged 12 years joggers, t-shirts, tops etc. 33 items all from Next. Excellent condition £20 0151 9321725

3 PAIRS Brand new black Dam art and Hotter ladies shoes all in boxes bargain size 5. £ 15 each 07518 389290

LEATHER JACKET Lake land brown jacket size 12 never worn cost £150 £48 01514760521 07970585735

LADIES TWEED winter coat, size 12, tan and cream, long length, very warm, cost almost £200, worn once £25 07977 344241

WEDDING OUTFIT Maxi dress and jacket, size 14, soft peach lace and ribbon, worn once, cost £375, £100 ono 01704 896866

WEDDING DRESS Ivory shantung silk size 10 beautiful detail Joel Peters underskirt veil £150 0151 5266235

SAFETY WAISTCOATS Two Hi-Vis yellow waistcoats. Medium up to 42" chest. Good quality. 07387439004

LADIES CLOTH'S Numerous new ladies clothes, size 22.Trousers, cardigan, tops, etc. From £5.00 07387439004

JACQUE VERT Ladies 3/4 length Camel coat. size 16. Excellent condition. £50 0151 9321725

WALKING BOOTS Ladies Dark Brown leather size 4. Good as New £10 0151 9321725

HOTTER SHOES Donna, dusky pink, size 7, vgc £15 01704 541276

WINTER COAT Pink zip up & hood from Next store age 7-8 £8 01704 893107

LADIES CLOTHES size 10 - 12 excellent condition £20 may deliver 01515263851

COMPUTING

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FERRATEC UNIVERSAL mitre saw stand with support rollers model no TMSS7CH £35 01695 577043

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ELECTRIC WELDER 240v, £25 01704 876907

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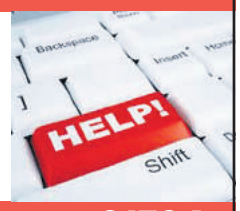

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GARDENING

MIDI GARDEN STORAGE BOX. Plastic, never used. £50.07397 954140.

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ABBEY SET BLOCKPAVING 35m2 reclaimed block paving x3 sizes collection from Ince Blundell £200 07891945065

PETROL LAWNMOWER Suffolk 17S top of the range, 17" cut, excellent condition £150 0151 5261337

EINHELL PETROL mower, 125cc, 460mm cutting width, adjusting cutting depth, 60 litre box £80 07434 286665

PLANT POTS Giant and large from £2. Garden rock from £1. Tree trunk path stones £1.50 01704 224135

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LEAF BLOWER Gardenline 102dB 2500W £20 01704 893195

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YAMAHA GUITAR Yamaha FG310 acoustic guitar. Repaired neck break plays perfectly great for starter or busker cheap at £10 07503197071

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SKY+HD BOX Excellent condition and working order including remote control £12 01695423023 (Aughton)

SOILD BOOKCASE Solid wood bookcase. Dark stained oak 3 foot high by 32 inch by 9 inch depth £15 07756229527

B&OSPEAKERS Pair of Bang & Olufsen Hi-Fi speakers in white 40 watt per chanel £25 the pair. 01704808691 Ainsdale

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BEIGE THREE PIECE SUITE Very good condition £250 o.n.o 0151 5265056

DOUBLE BED Dark brown leather. High back with mattress. £100. 07783757714

KITCHEN UNITS Redwood - 60cm-3 drawer,50cm-cupboard,60cm-oven/housing,20cm-towelrail,110cm-corner,2-40cm doors and drawer fronts, worktop/gas hob (ignition not working) - £80 01695424797

FRAME WOODEN effect. Dark. Very large. Ornate carving. W133.5cm. 52.5". H102.5cm. 40"6. Fair condition.Small chips & scratches mainly on edges. £35 ono 01704 808024/07763000776

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KENWOOD MICROWAVE 25 litre stainless steel and black. Glass turntable. LED display 900w press button. Instructions. little used like new bargain £30 01704220356

2 BOOKCASES Light Veneer ready assembled bookcases, will sell separately 38 inch high, 29 inch wide,10 inch deep good condition £10 each 07756229527

2 SMALL Worcester pots early 20thc.Hand painted & signed.7cm high.Cost £100.Sell for £50.Antique mahogany 3 tier folding cake stand.£15.Buyer collects.Skem. 07748178554

SMALL OAK table (1920's). Scalloped edge.55cm dia.50cm high.£10.Glass sugar caster. Hallmarked silver top & collar. 1913-1915. £10.Buyer collects. Skem. 07748178554

CLOAKROOM BASIN Small corner basin (porcelain) no taps/waste, new unused still boxed. Suitable for utility/cloakroom £15. Email pictures available, buyer collects. 0151 2860268

FURNITURE SET Solid Mahogany Matching TV Unit Coffee Table & Sideboard, High Polish Finish Originally Paid £1200 Bargain at £325 Buyer to Collect 07305 839665

WARDROBE DOORS Ikea pax stordal no,12569, 4 aluminium+frosted glass, ht 2mt w1mt ex condition with track+fittings £1oo buyer collects, ainsdale. 01704808691 Ainsdale

TUMBLE DRIER White knight,6kg with reverse tumble drying guide with 2heat settings made in uk,model 44aw, surplus to requirements good condition £45 01704808691 Ainsdale

PRINT ON canvas. Modern. Red flowered plant in terracotta vase + terracotta bowls. Light creamish background. H&W79.5cm. D2.5cm. Excellent condition. £10 01704 808024/07763000776

PANASONIC UPRIGHT cleaner, 1700w, excellent condition £25. Brand new double bed size sheets with matching pillowcases, 2 blue, 1 pink £10 01704 570374

MODERN BED FRAME Small Double modern Blue Denim Fabric Bed Frame and side-cabinet (Bensons). Suit Teenager Great condition.Easy assembled £100 ono Burscough. 07970504223

DYSON STOWAWAY Cylinder model DC23 with telescopic wand for easy neat storage and Dyson Flat Out Head. Used but excellent condition £50 Formby 07590028368

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ZANUSSI EXTRACTOR hood for over kitchen hob - brown. 60 x 48.5 x 16cm two internal lights, in good working order £25. 01695424797

RUG Brown approx 1mx2m rectangle rug, paterened with large circules, colours ranging from cream, fawn to dark brown. £30. Burscough 07736642788

KENWOOD MICROWAVE like new/little used black/stainless steel 25 litre LED display glass turntable instruction booklet bargain £30 01704220356

ANTIQUE OAK Chest 4ft wide 21ins deep X 32ins high, lift up lid, paneled front with 2 drawers, nice condition. £150. 01704 530137

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FIREPLACE MIRROR over mantle mirror bought from stokers. Dark wood finish 44 inch wide by 32 inch high, excellent condition £50 07756229527

SMALL SOFA 2 seater green draylon sofa with matching storage foot stool. 32 inch high, 58 inch wide. good condition. £40 07756229527

MINI OVEN white eletric oven with 2 rings on top, 23 inch wide, 13 inch high, 14 inch deep good working order £30 07756229527

DINNING TABLE Small round , light solid wood table with 2 matching chairs 29 inch wide, good condition £60 07756229527

NEXT CURTAINS Brand new curtains still in wrapping, mauve colour, 66 wide, 90 drop, cost £75.00 will sell for £30 07800511330

BATHROOM CABINET Brand new from B&Q. Double doors mirror fronted with two interior shelves cost £120 but will sell for £50 07800511330

BEDSIDE CABINET Beautiful good quality piece of furniture, like brand new. Ivory colour with top and drawer front Dove Grey £60 07800511330

BEDDING SET Eyelet curtains 66x72, matching King Size quilt cover and pillowcases. Grey, white and gold geometric design from Next £50 0151 9321725

COFFEE SET Glazed pottery. Brown and white. Coffee pot with four mugs and unusual plate-like saucers. £6.99 ono. Ainsdale. 07753909040

ESPRESSO SET All glazed pottery. 2 cups.saucers (brown) and 2 spoons (white). New condition in sealed pack. Ainsdale. £3.99 ono 07753909040

DFS SOFA 2 seater sofa, excellent condition, used as spare. Brown with leather trim and cushions on back. Aintree Pickup £100 07725832259

HALL TABLES 2 Number Matching Semi Circular Hall Tables with Glass Inset Tops, Colour Light Oak £30 the pair, Buyer to Collect 07305 839665

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SANDERSON FABRIC 27yds x54inch wide curtain material,pink,grey+aqua watermark in wide stripe £45, ainsdale. 01704808691 Ainsdale

CANVAS PRINT Mid blue & aqua green. Abstract water. H&W50cm. D3cm. Very good condition. 01704 808024/07763000776

CD STORAGE Medium shade wooden, from The Pier, 3ft 6" tall, £10. Ceiling light, brass and glass crystal, can be seen working0 07977 344241

MIRROR 29X17 gold frame, lead lights £15. Two small metal lamps, bronze, very pretty suit any room, only £10 for both 07977 344241

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TWO LARGE Gold coloured lamp shades fully lined excellent condition currently selling in Taskers for £29.99 £10 each or both for £18 07402 433000

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DOUBLE BED Hardly used c/w white iron headboard smoke free home c/w duvet and pillows if req'd. Buyer please to collect £80ono 07583 165915

LEATHER SOFA Medium sofa, power recliner chair, storage stool dark brown from Stokers. Less than year old. £500 01704 565966

MIRROR Cheval dressing mirror gold surround from Homebase £10 as new. Size 140cm L 48cm W 9 1/2cm. Gold edge 07944 962355

STANDARD FLOOR lamp mahogany wood stand and base cream lined shade John Lewis excellent condition may deliver £90 ono 01515263851

CIRCULAR TABLE Small solid wood drop leaf table, 15" wide when open, 19" high. 4" wide when closed. Piano hinges. £10.00 07387439004

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STORAGE UNIT in beech with 2 closed and 2 open cupboards. Ideal for small room or bedside cabinet.Great condition £20 07935641474

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BEAUTIFUL LLADRO Figurine. Cinderella character reference number 4828. Perfect condition. £35 01695423023 (Aughton)

SEWING MACHINE Singer tredal sewing machine 35 inch high, 19 inch deep, good working order £40 07756229527

HOME OFFICE Lg roll top desk, solid light wood 56 inch high x 64 inch wide x 36 inch deep £150 ono 07756229527

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SINGLE HEADBOARD solid heavy pine excellent condition 1st to see will buy bargain £30 07518929646

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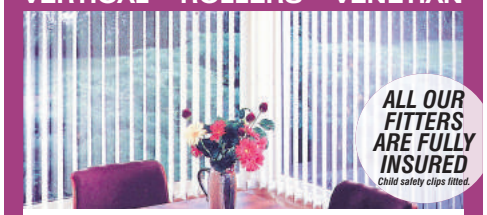

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MISC

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JANE TRIDER Light pram system. Chocolate. Suitable birth to 4 years. Includes carry cot, footmuff, raincover, excellent condition. £60 07801651562

PRAM Nearly new, one previous owner, excellent condition, cost £300, £95 07851 192684

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TERREUO SIDI Motor Bikr, black jacket, extra large, good condition £45 0151 5266235

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SPORTS EQUIPMENT

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SPORTS EQUIPMENT

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£1,500 = 24563 £100 = 206558

Winners of £20 are as follows:

22750	27124
13666	73345
17919	104946
19575	236524
11073	150554
303535	140793
21095	26347
38585	12420
11251	63073
211578	156682

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This week's £1,500 Prize Winner lives in Banastre Road, Southport

£1,500 = 23989 £100 = 15711

Winners of £20 are as follows:

24766	246448
289390	27918
110228	26672
127544	84525
11521	10552
144828	12099
311783	79214
13657	205798
159556	14827
203176	10572

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Friday 24th August 2018

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BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY DAVID HALSALL

29th August

Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Stephen and Carly

xxx

EXAM SUCCESS

TOM GELHARDT

We knew you could

We knew you would

Behind you, all your memories, before you,all your dreams,around you,all who love you,within you all you need.

So proud of our Grandson.

Mammy and Grandad

XXX

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

McCAIG SYDNEY

1st September
would have been your
90th birthday

"Heavenly birthday wishes"

We never need a special day to bring you to our minds, for days without you are very hard to find.

From your loving Wife Edie, Daughter Gill and partner Tony

x x x

PRAYERS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published.

MD

IN MEMORIAM

POLLARD ANDREW

Died 29th August 2008

Remembering you is easy,we do it everyday
It's just the pain of losing you,that never goes away.

Never Forgotten
Love
Mum and Dad
Daren,Matthew and Family

XXXXX

MOON JOHN STUART

Who passed away
3 years ago
27th August 2015

Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered everyday.... No longer in our life to share, But in our hearts, you're always there.

Loved always
Deborah, Jasmine and Elliot
xxx

To place a family **announcement** please call 01704 392392

IN MEMORIAM

CUBBON JAMES (ANDY)

Passed away
3 September 2017

Andy, In life I loved you dearly,
In death I love you still
In my heart you hold a place,
That no one could ever fill

It broke my heart to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of me went with you
The day God took you home

Your loving wife
Angela xxx

DEATHS

COAKLEY TERENCE (TERRY)

20th August 2018
Peacefully in hospital
aged 74 years

Loving Husband of Sylvia. Devoted Dad of Andrea and Ian. Cherished Grandad of Lewis, Teri, Erin and Nicholas. Much loved Brother, Uncle and friend to many. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at St. Pauls Church on Friday 31st August at 1pm followed by interment at West Lancashire Cemetery. All enquiries Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

RICHARDS ANN

Passed away peacefully at Queenscourt Hospice
23 August 2018

Our bright and shining star has left us,
Ann you were one of a kind
Unique in every way
You loved with your whole heart and touched so many lives with your love.
With your love, compassion and sense of humour,
You were the light that warmed us all.
Rest in Peace our darling Ann
Loving sister Winnie and family xxxx

DEATHS

MOORE (NEE WALKER) CAROLE ANN

20th August 2018

Passed away at Southport and District General Hospital. Suddenly, surrounded by her family. Carole will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Wife to Brian, Mum to Diane and Michelle, Mother In Law to David and Mark. Grandma to Claire, Sarah and Vicky, Adam, Daniel and Chloe. Great Grandma to Mia, Harry and Ruby. Sister to David and Sister In Law to David.

We little knew that morning that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same. Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same; but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

Requiem Mass to take place at Our Lady Help Of Christians, Hesketh Lane, Tarleton on Friday 31st August at 10:15am followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough. Family flowers only please, however donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice.

Further enquiries and donations to NEWLAND AND WILKINSON Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, PR4 6RJ. Telephone 01772 811165

SHEILLS MARGARET

15th August 2018
Aged 88 years

Devoted Wife to the late Les (Leslie), much loved Mother to Leslie and Derek, and loving Grandmother to Martin and Julia. She will be sadly missed by family and friends, Funeral service at Thornton Crematorium on Friday 31st August at 11.20am. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to The Alzheimers Society c/o H.Leslie Humphreys, 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby L23 5SE. Telephone 0151 924 4805.

Announcements

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DEATHS

DRAPER NELL

(Nellie Wilson)
Passed away peacefully at home on 20th August 2018 aged 63 years of Burscough

"Nell was a special lady in our life.
A loving Mother,
my best friend,
my lovely wife."

"Hugs and kisses always Nanny, love Alexa and Ethan xx"

Funeral Service to celebrate the life of Nell at Southport Crematorium on Friday 31st August 12.40pm. Please join the family afterwards at Hurlston Hall. Family flowers only or donations to the Stroke Assocation (in support of Nell's work). Donations and further enquiries to Sally Hunter. MLS Independent Funeral Directors 22a, Liverpool Road North, Burscough. L40 5TP. Tel: 01704 891555

BROWNE JUNE

Died suddenly at home
Aged 59 years

Beloved Mum to Matthew and Alison,Mother-In-Law to Jeffrey and Carly. Much loved Nannie to Polly and Penelope June yet to be born. Beloved Sister,best friend and soulmate to Jean and Husband Jim.Beloved Auntie to Jeanette and Lyndsey,Husbands Brian and Rent.Much loved Great Auntie to Patrick, Christopher, Natalie, Emily and Liam.Good Friend to John.All our hearts are broken,going to miss you very much.You went too soon,"see you in the sunshine June" X for Els.

Funeral to be held at West Lancashire Crematorium on Thursday 30th August at 12.15.Enquiries and many thanks to MLS Independent Funeral Directors,22a Liverpool Road North,Burscough, Tel 01695 891555

DEATHS

JONES GEORGE

11th August 2018
Peacefully on holiday in Greece
aged 81 years

Loving Husband of Val, devoted Dad of Neil, Carole, Sarah and Andrew. Dear Father in law of Joanne, Joe and Lisa. Cherished Grandad and Great Grandad of all his Grandchildren and a dear Brother of Jessie. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Thursday 30th August at 3.15pm. Family flowers only please by request. Donations if desired for the British Heart Foundation. All enquiries Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

DEATHS

BIBBY GORDON

Retired Southport Police Sergeant passed peacefully in Queenscourt Hospice on Sunday 19th August aged 77 years surrounded by family

Devoted Husband to Wendy and much loved Father to Dave, Sue and Cath. Adored Grandfather to Sam, Amy and Chloe. We will all miss you very much. Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 7th September at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Queenscourt Hospice. Further information Hunters of Ormskirk, 128b Burscough St, Ormskirk L39 2EY Tel:01695 572997

DEATHS

RICHARDSON (FORMERLY HOUGHTON, NEE DAVIES) BARBARA MAY

15th August 2018
Aged 78 years

Loving Mum to Gordon, Nana to Anita, Kelly, Demetria and Andrew. Barbara's second family, Husband Edward and his children Alan, Janine, Mark and Rachel, and Grandchildren Daniel, Natashia, Jessica and Amelia. Funeral service at Tarleton Methodist Church on Thursday 30th August at 10:00am followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium. Donations are being collected in lieu of flowers for Queenscourt Hospice. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

JOHN RILEY (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 16 Parliament Street, Upholland, Skelmersdale WN8 0LN, who died on 26/03/2018, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 06/11/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Heselwood & Grant Solicitors, 4a Clifton Square, Lytham, Lancashire FY8 5JP.
Ref: NO/PR000659

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PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15
APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/0747/FUL Single storey extensions to rear and side. Two storey side extension at 216 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0752/FUL Application for the conversion of former stables for residential purposes, a linked extension to the existing farmhouse and the provision of a new access road at 116 Station Road, Barton, Downholland.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0760/FUL To add A3 use to existing A1 use to create mixed use area. To install instore cafe area at Top Shop Newsagent, 21 Station Road, Hesketh Bank.
2018/0766/FUL Installation of External Flue at 19 - 21 Aughton Street, Ormskirk.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0778/FUL Extension to rear of residential accommodation to provide garden room at The Owl Business Centre, 47 School Lane, UpHolland.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0779/LBC Listed Building Consent - Extension to rear of residential accommodation to provide garden room at The Owl Business Centre, 47 School Lane, UpHolland.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0780/FUL Extension to garage to provide office/store at The Owl Business Centre, 47 School Lane, UpHolland.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0807/COU Change of use from student HMO to Bed & Breakfast at 14 Park Road, Ormskirk.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0823/LBC Listed Building Consent - Replacement of upper and lower casement winsdows on front elevation at Sundew Cottage, Ash Brow, Newburgh.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0827/LBC Listed Building Consent following the approval of planning permissions under reference 2017/1335/FUL - Change of use of building to private stabling and 2017/1100/FUL - Conversion and use of the barn (Carthouse) for residential uses ancillary to the Farmhouse including alterations and extensions to the building at Stand Farm, Spa Lane, Lathom.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0837/FUL Demolition of existing football ground, social club and associated buildings. Erection of 52 new dwellings including; 11no. 2-bed houses for affordable rent, 4no. 2-bed houses for shared ownership, 21no. 3-bed houses for shared ownership, 6no 4-bedhouses at Burscough AFC, Victoria Park, Mart Lane, Burscough.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e-mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 24 days of the date of this notice quoting the application number.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

How information about you will be used
The personal data you provide will be used as part of the Council's statutory planning duties in processing planning and related applications. Some of the personal information you provide will be published. For further information about this notice or how we use your personal data please see: http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning/planning-privacy-notices/level-2-development-management-cil-privacy-notice.aspx and http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/about-the-council/legal-statements-and-foi/privacy-and-data-protection-gdpr.aspx. Hard copies are available on request.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration
Dated: 29th August 2018
PDNOT1008

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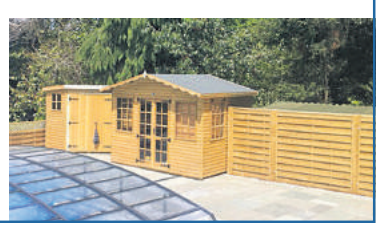

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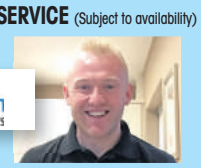

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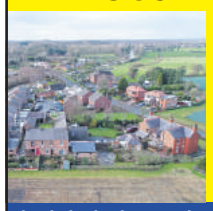
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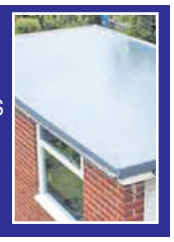
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Every cloud had a silver lining at a washed out Ormskirk MotorFest

Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER

IT'D TAKE more spin than a wayward TVR to pretend otherwise, so I might as well deal with the rather damp elephant in the room first. Last weekend's Ormskirk MotorFest was a bit of a washout.

West Lancashire's Bank Holiday homage to horsepower has had it lucky right from that inaugural outing way back in 2011 to last year's event, becoming Ormskirk's single biggest trading day in the process, but the winning streak with the weather had to run out eventually.

The town centre displays looked as striking as ever but the crowds that turned out to see them were rather smaller than in previous years, and during the afternoon parades what would normally be heaving crowds behind the barriers turned out to be a gathering of brolly-wielding onlookers braving the awful weather. Turnout was down too, with some car and bike owners deciding it wasn't worth the soaking.

But if you didn't go you missed a treat, because on a day defined entirely by the downpours there were plenty of rays of automotive sunshine.

There was, for instance, Pauline Ryding's delightfully daft Dodge Viper GTS, which I admired principally because it attempted to deafen me every time it thundered past the commentary box – but even that wasn't a patch on the stock car parade, the most vocal of which had Chevy and Chrysler V8s doing their bidding.

I also couldn't help but smile when Ian Williams' Triumph TR3A and David Grant-Wilkes' MG TC whizzed their way around Ormskirk's one-way system, roofs down despite the constant downpours, because that's how leaky old British sports cars are *supposed* to be driven.

Then there were the concours entrants, which fellow old car nut and motor sport commentating legend Neville Hay and I had the joy of judging over a rather damp two hours. George Cross' meticulously maintained Ford Escort – which has covered just 12,000 miles in 41 years – was a deserving winner, but I couldn't help having a soft spot for Tony Bates' Datsun 260Z and Damian Lynch's Ferrari 330.

But the one that really caught my eye, even in a show dominated by the plucky and British, was something chic and French. Edward Bernand's 1965 Panhard wasn't only wonderful to look at but the culmination of a 32-year-restoration, courtesy of an owner who's cherished it for 50 years. What's more, because Edward finally finished restoring the car last year this was its first-ever outing in Ormskirk – for me, it was the star of the show.

So even when the MotorFest doesn't have the weather on its side it can still chuck a few genuinely exciting cars in Ormskirk's direction.

As for next year, maybe if we all chip in we can get the council to stick a giant umbrella above Coronation Park. Just a thought!

David Simister is the editor of Classic Car Weekly.

This Panhard won our motors expert over in Ormskirk last weekend

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Ormskirk title hopes take a hit as Northern hold out for a draw

ORMSKIRK are 60 points behind leaders Northern in the Liverpool Competition Premier Division who now need to win just one of their three remaining fixtures in order to be crowned champions, after the two teams made a draw at Moor Park last Saturday.

Ormskirk chose to bat and declared after 52.4 overs on 160-7, thanks largely to 79 from Lancashire's Josh Bohannon, whilst Justin Snow took 3-41 with the ball.

In reply, an unbeaten 53* from Australian Hayden McCrae and 34 from Chris Laker saw Northern through to the close on 109-2.

Third placed Formby's home match against Lytham was washed out by the rain.

Fourth placed Bootle won a 500 plus run fest against Rainhill at Wadham Road, the visitors were asked to bat and piled up 262-5 declared in 67 overs, thanks in the main to valuable runs from Tyler McGladdery 76, Mike Rotheram 59, Ross Higham 47 and skipper Matt Fletcher 33.

In reply, opener Michael Farrell scored a century 117 (14x4), Vishal Tripathi 44, Will Hale 31 and Neil Williams remained unbeaten on 30* as the hosts romped to victory in 47 overs on 263-6 with an over to spare.

Maghull's Second Division match at Spring View was washed out by the rain.

Burscough stay bottom as they fail to chase down 99

BURSCOUGH must have had hopes of pulling away from the bottom of the First Division when they dismissed Fleetwood Hesketh for 99 with Ryan Hughes claiming four wickets for no runs conceded in his 1.3 overs.

Hesketh collapsed from 92-4 to 99 all out with Andrew Watts 63 the only batsman to reach double figures.

In Burscough's reply, Alan Murray scored 33 and Matthew Wright 19 , but the rest failed to cope with the swing of Ryan Thomas who took 5-23 and the spin of Bobby Wincer (4-17) and they were all out for 84.

Southport & Birkdale clinched promotion back to the top flight with a draw at relegation threatened Liverpool. After a delayed start Liverpool chose to bat and thanks to an unbeaten 78* from Northamptonshire's Luke Procter, 48 from Aaron Bleakley and 42 from Sam Holliday were able to declare on 190-6 in the 49th over, with Andrew Warhurst taking 4-49. In reply, Brad Yates 58 and Harry May 43 helped take the visitors to 104-1 before a few wickets tumbled leaving skipper Chris Firth and Gary Keedy to safely see out the draw on 149-7, S&B now need to win one of their two remaining fixture's to clinch the title.

Ainsdale's chances of promotion took a huge dent as they were beaten by 100 runs at second placed Orrell Red Triangle who put 161 up on the board with Richard Everett top scoring with 45, whilst Martyn Farrell 5-58 and skipper Stephen Lucas 4-47 took the bulk of the wickets. In reply, only Sam and Stephen Lucas reached double figures as Ainsdale slipped from 40-1 to 61 all out, with Joe Lyth taking a remarkable 5-0 and Siddiq Patel 3-22.

THIS weekend's local LDCC fixtures: Highfield v Ormskirk, Burscough v Prestatyn, Wigan v Fleetwood Hesketh, Alder v Maghull, St Helens T'n v Hightown St Mary's.

Impressive Linnets pull off cup victory

But two days later Burscough lose fourth league match in only five games

Gary Grier, Terry Cummings and Matt Ward celebrate Burscough's second goal against Northwich. Picture by Marc Taylor

FA Cup second preliminary round
Burscough 2
Northwich Victoria 0

BURSCOUGH won their big FA Cup tie at Victoria Park on Saturday thanks to a couple of first-half goals, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

Their reward for reaching the First Qualifying Round is an intriguing but rather difficult tie away to Evo-Stik Premier promotion favourites Warrington Town on Saturday, September 8.

The intrigue coming in the shape of Mark Beasley, a Burscough resident and former manager of the Linnets, who is now assistant manager of Warrington Town.

Burscough had started the game on the offensive and it took them only four minutes to grab the lead.

A tidy move down the right-hand side putting the ball to Matt Ward in the penalty area, he provided a quality finish making it 1-0.

Burscough were in charge in this opening period and probably should have doubled their lead.

In the 44th minute Burscough won a free-kick and Danny Brady hoisted the ball into the goalmouth, Terry Cummings lifted himself above everyone and headed past Northwich goalkeeper Dan Taberner to give Burscough a valuable 2-0 lead to take into the interval.

The home supporters held their breath soon after the restart as Robert Doran got onto the ball in the Linnets penalty area.

The problem was dealt with but Northwich made loud appeals for a penalty, however referee Chris Porter didn't agree and the Burscough followers were able to breathe out again.

The rest of the game saw Northwich pressing but Burscough holding them at arm's length, with none of the scares that occurred for them the previous Tuesday, Burscough though always posed a problem on the counterattack.

In the end only a fantastic save from Taberner prevented Burscough from confirming victory early with a third goal.

City of Liverpool 3
Burscough 0

A HAT trick from Tom Peterson meant Burscough came away empty handed against local rivals City of Liverpool on Bank Holiday Monday.

Burscough, fielding the same starting eleven who had done so well against Northwich Victoria on Saturday, had started well again and might have taken the lead early on when Matt Ward was put through on goal.

The Linnets had arguably been the better team for 20 minutes but that changed when a poor headed response to a long ball from COL put the ball perfectly for Peterson, who with time and space picked his spot to make it 1-0.

Two minutes later Burscough had a mountain to climb, a header from a corner hit the crossbar and in true goal poachers fashion Peterson got the second from about two yards out.

The loss of Chad Whyte after a collision with the goalkeeper just before half-time was a blow for Burscough and after 49 minutes it was effectively all over.

The ball fell to Peterson around the penalty spot and he put the ball wide of Linnets goalkeeper Lee Robinson and into the net to make it three.

Burscough fought on and given luck could easily have pulled a goal or two back, especially when a Ward header was only kept by a fine save, although COL were the better side.

Burscough can at least take credit for pushing the hosts back for good periods in what was an excellent spectacle from two enterprising teams.

This Saturday Burscough are at home to Alsager Town in the FA Vase. They then play Irlam at home in the league on Tuesday, September 4.

Skem knocked out after conceding two late goals

FA Cup second preliminary round
Ashton Athletic 2
Skelmersdale United 1

TEN man Skelmersdale United were knocked out of the FA Cup after conceding two goals in the last six minutes.

A 42nd minute red card arguably cost Skelmersdale the chance to make progress.

Things were going fairly well for Dave Powell's team in their local derby cup tie at Ashton-in-Makerfield until a row over a free-kick saw captain and main stay of the defence Mike Roddy dismissed accused of kicking an opponent.

The score at the time of Skem's third red card of the season was 0-0. Skem responded by taking the lead soon after the interval, however, two goals in the last six minutes of the game turned the game upside down and proved an expensive exercise for the cash strapped club.

A victory would have meant around £2,000 more than the losers money and further denied them the opportunity to pick up £6,000 in the next round.

Three minutes before half-time Skelmersdale won a free-kick on the edge of their penalty area, Roddy went to take the kick but an Ashton player stood in his way preventing him and messing around with the ball.

Roddy went to retrieve the ball and kicked the Ashton player, who immediately went to ground. Referee Anthony Murphy after consulting his assistant displayed the red card to Ruddy.

It took Skelmersdale just two minutes of the second-half to go in front when Jason Carey took great pleasure in steering the ball past Pearson and into the net.

On 84 minutes Ashton levelled. Nicholson crossed from the right and found substitute Adam Howard unmarked on the far post, using his time to play a right foot shoot low across Smith into the net.

Two minutes later the energetic Nicholson had two attempts at goal blocked and the ball ran out to Howard on the left, his first time cross to the far post found another substitute Chris Bandell running in and he headed home from about four yards out to give Ashton the winner in a game that despite the sending off could still have gone either way.

Skelmersdale United 1
Runcorn Linnets 3

SKELMERSDALE United are still in search of their first league win.

Skelmersdale came close to scoring on 24 minutes when Runcorn goalkeeper Dylan Forth managed to turn a 20 yard shot from Kevin Edgar onto the foot of his right-hand post.

Runcorn's opening goal had an element of luck about it. In the 44th minute Holt did very well on the right-wing, eventually cutting inside and dribbling along the goal-line before playing the ball low and firmly into the six yard box.

Home defender Calum Woods had no choice other than to play the ball as he had forwards behind him, unfortunately he could only deflect it into the net from about two yards.

After the interval Runcorn doubled their advantage. Runcorn counter-attacked and from a right-wing cross Shanley headed powerfully at goal and despite valiant efforts on the Skelmersdale goal-line the ball went into the net.

In the 72nd minute the Skelmersdale pressure brought a reward. Dunne swung a free-kick in from the right and Mike Roddy got up above everyone to head the ball over Forth and into the goal behind him to reduce the arrears. It was now game on.

Six minutes added time had gone and almost every Skem player was on the attack when Runcorn broke away. Shanley rounded keeper Smith and was tripped. A penalty was rightly given and Smith was rather fortunate to be shown a yellow card.

From the penalty spot former Skem left-back Corrigan scored to give Runcorn a third goal.

● This Saturday, Skelmersdale are away at Atherton Collieries.

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